

THE
ARCHITECT
& BUILDING NEWS

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HEMPSTEAD
- INFORMATION DIGEST

MARCH 26, 1953

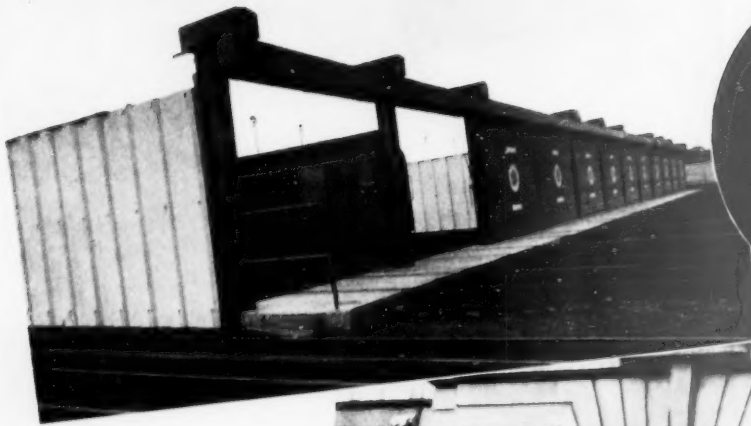
VOL. 203

NO. 13

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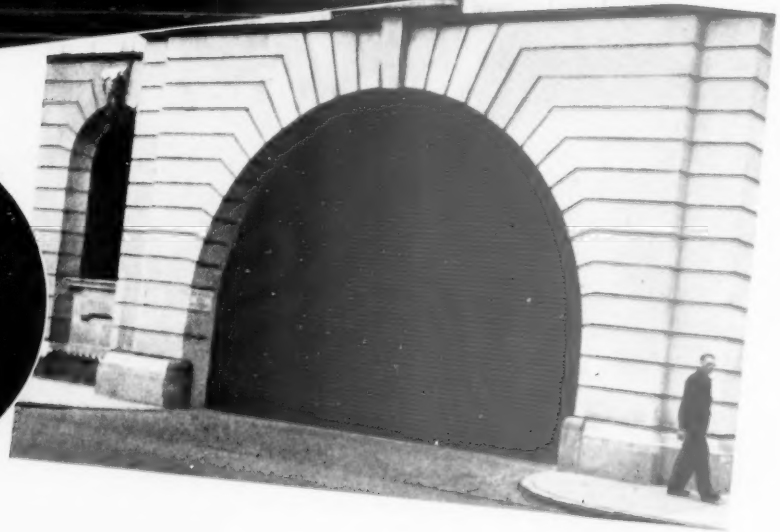


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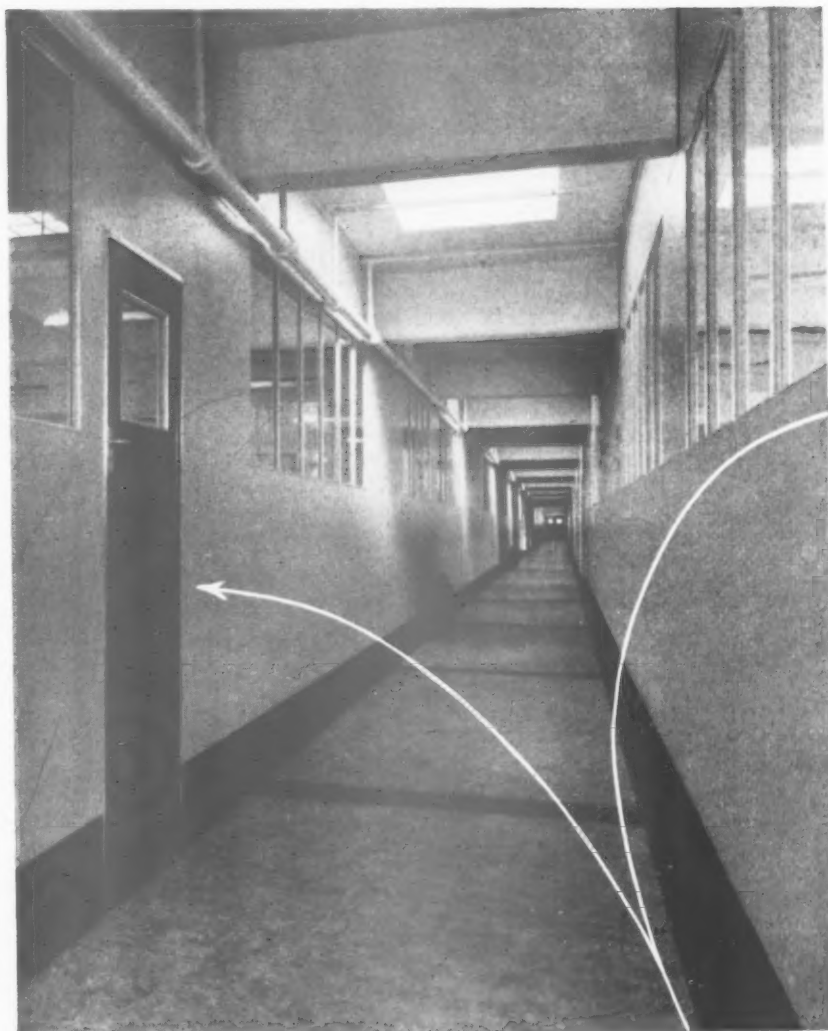
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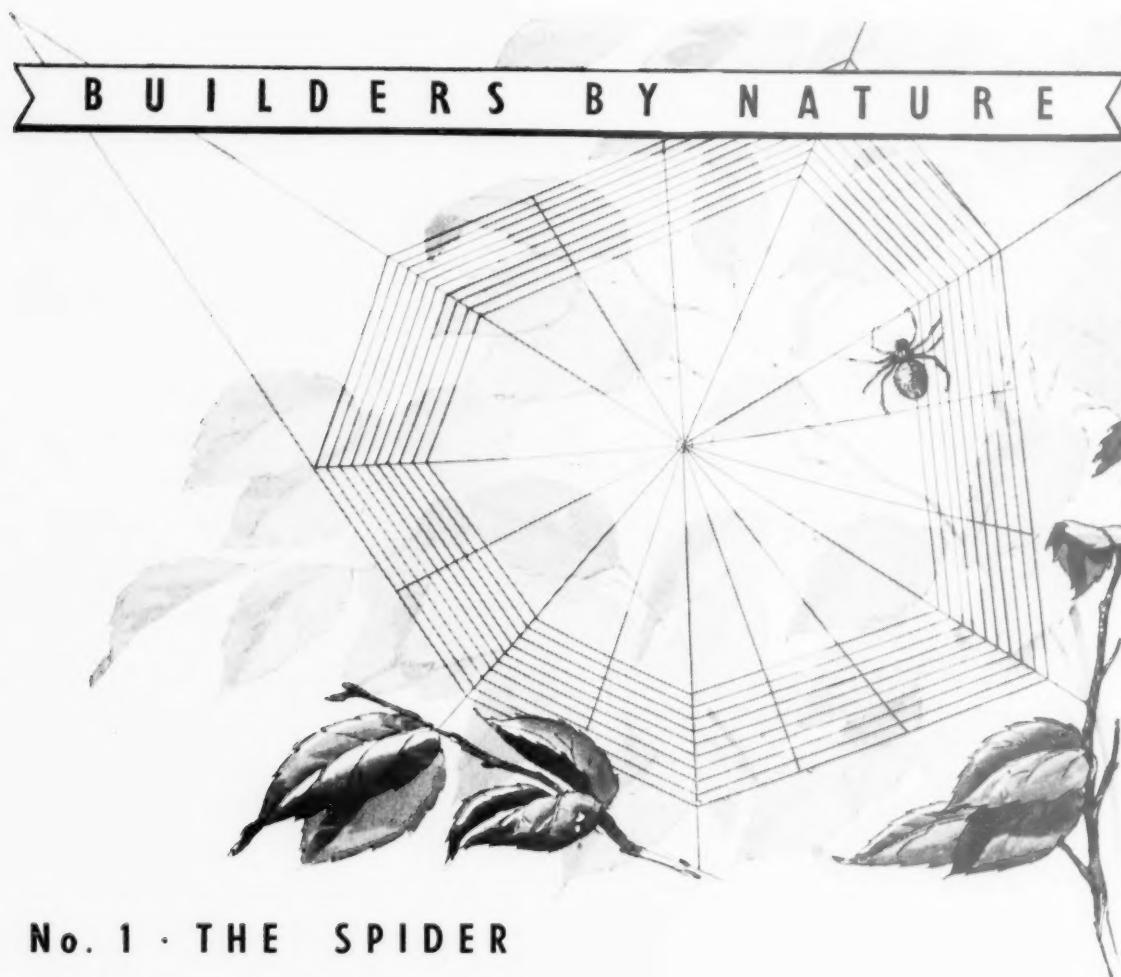
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Boundary points are chosen and foundation lines are laid down between them, sometimes with the help of the wind. The spider lets out a thread of silk which is

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R.118

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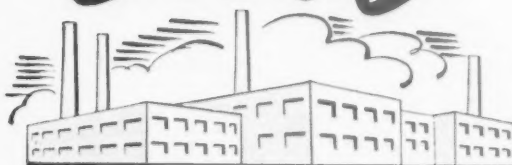
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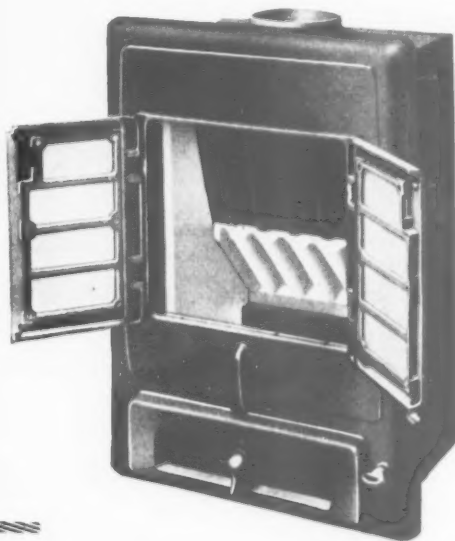


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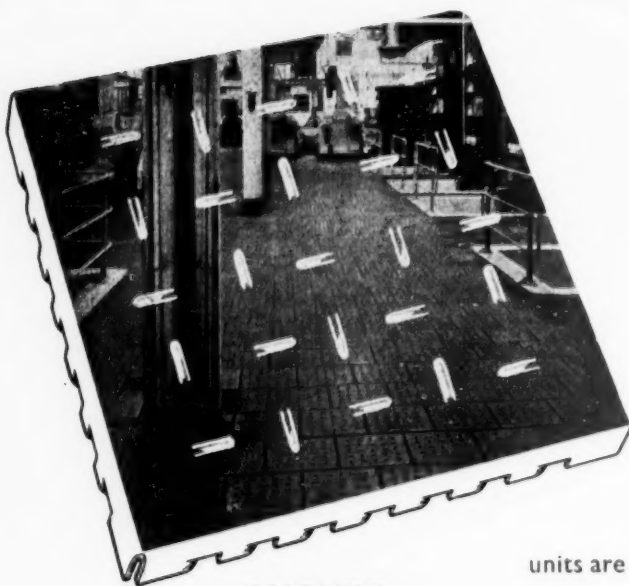
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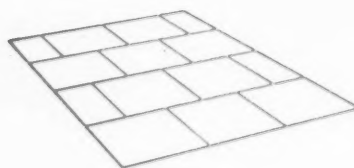
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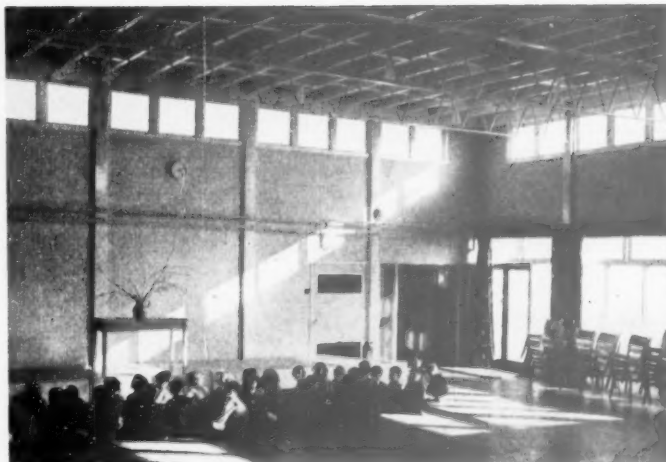
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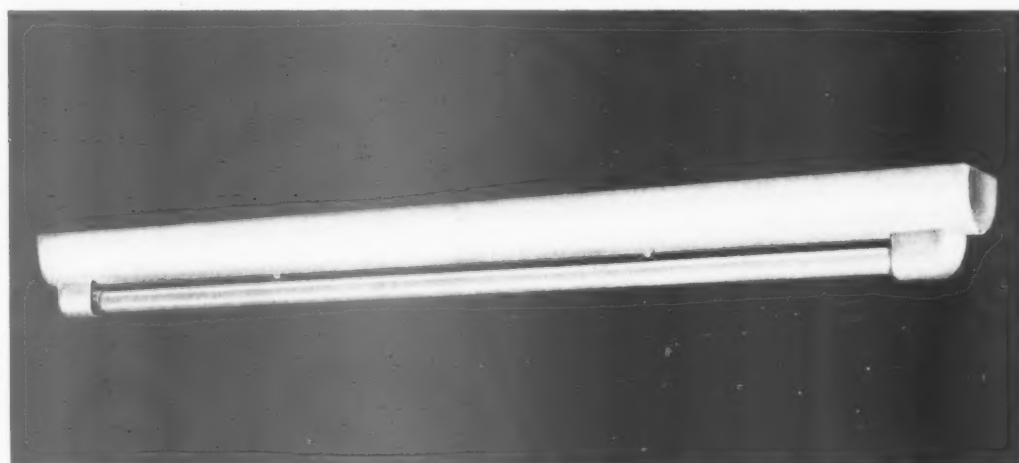
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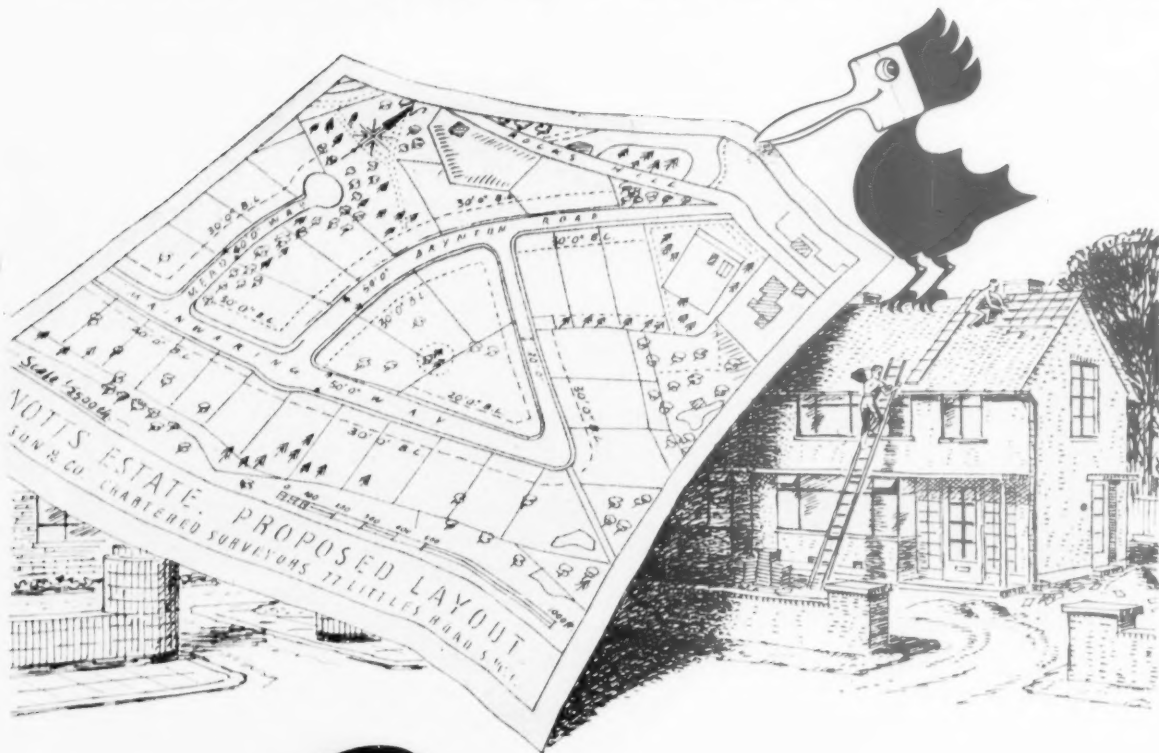
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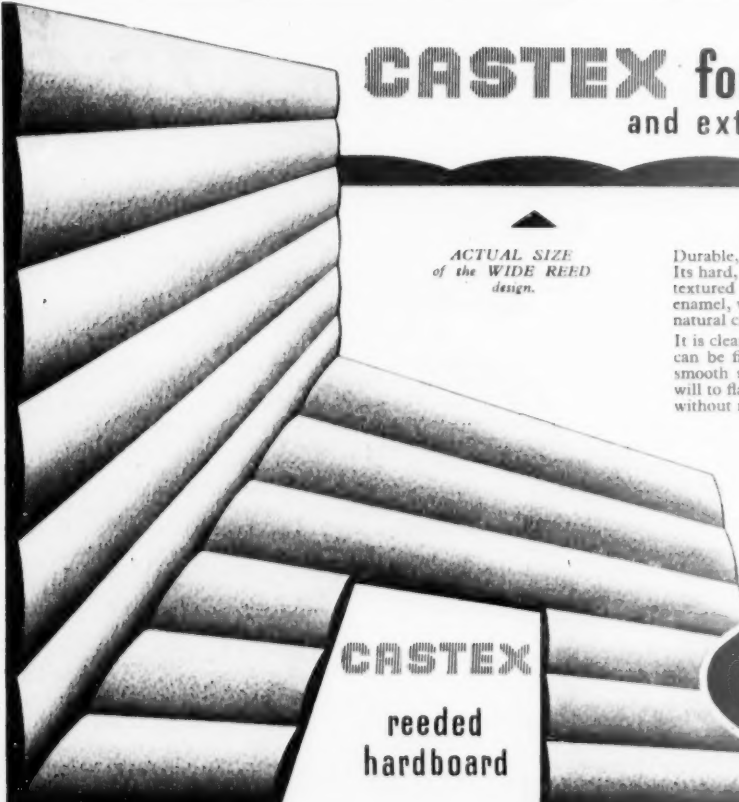
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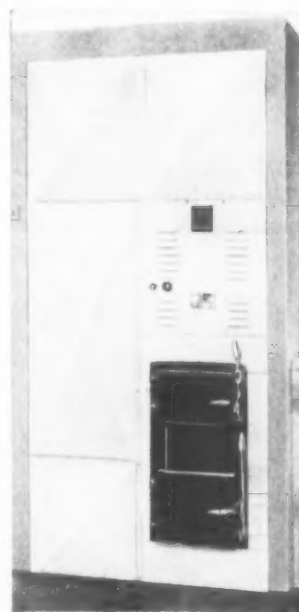
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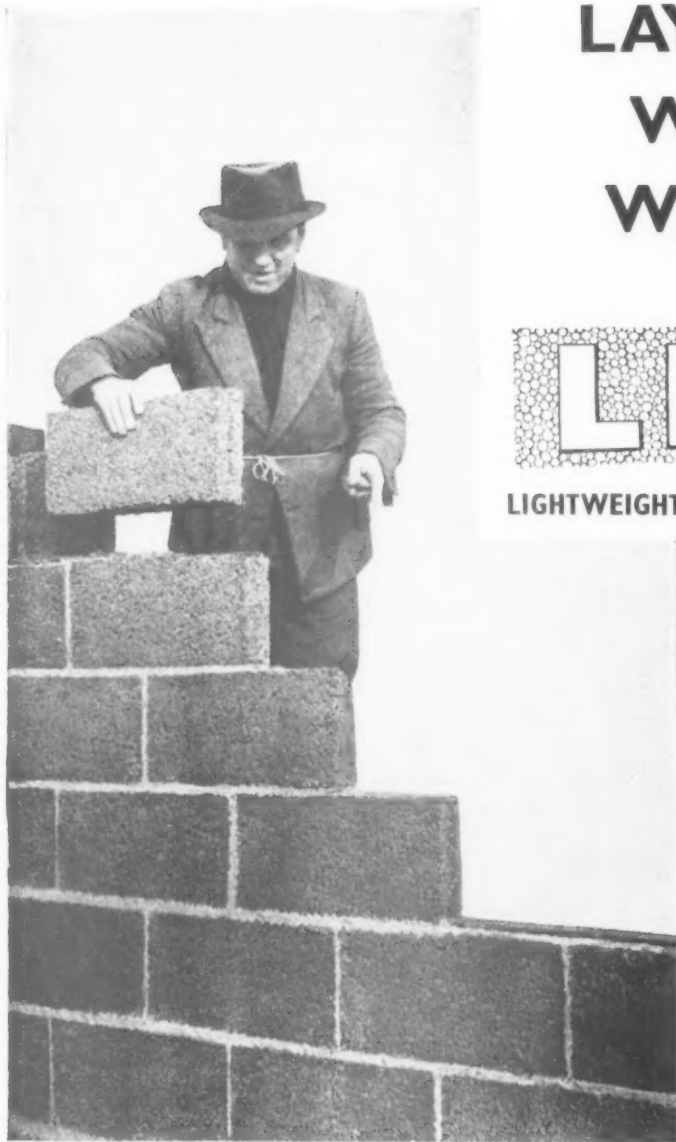
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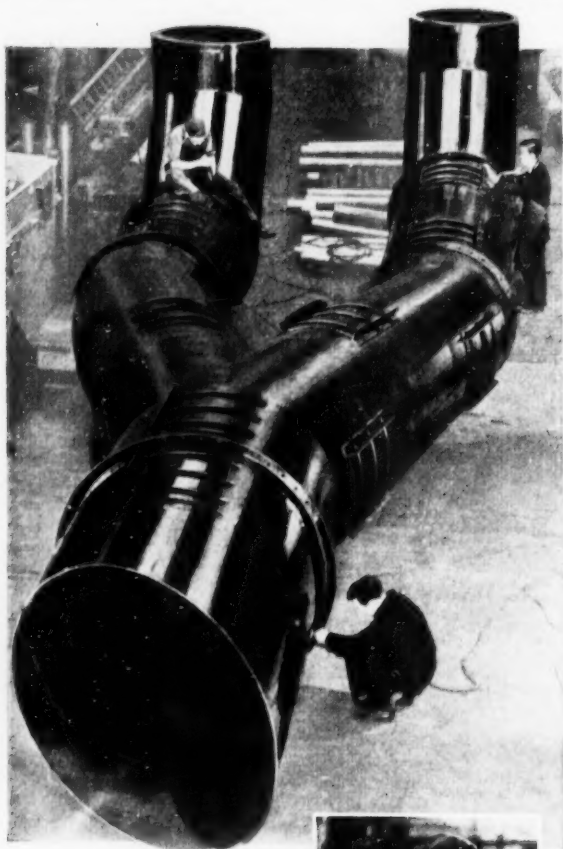
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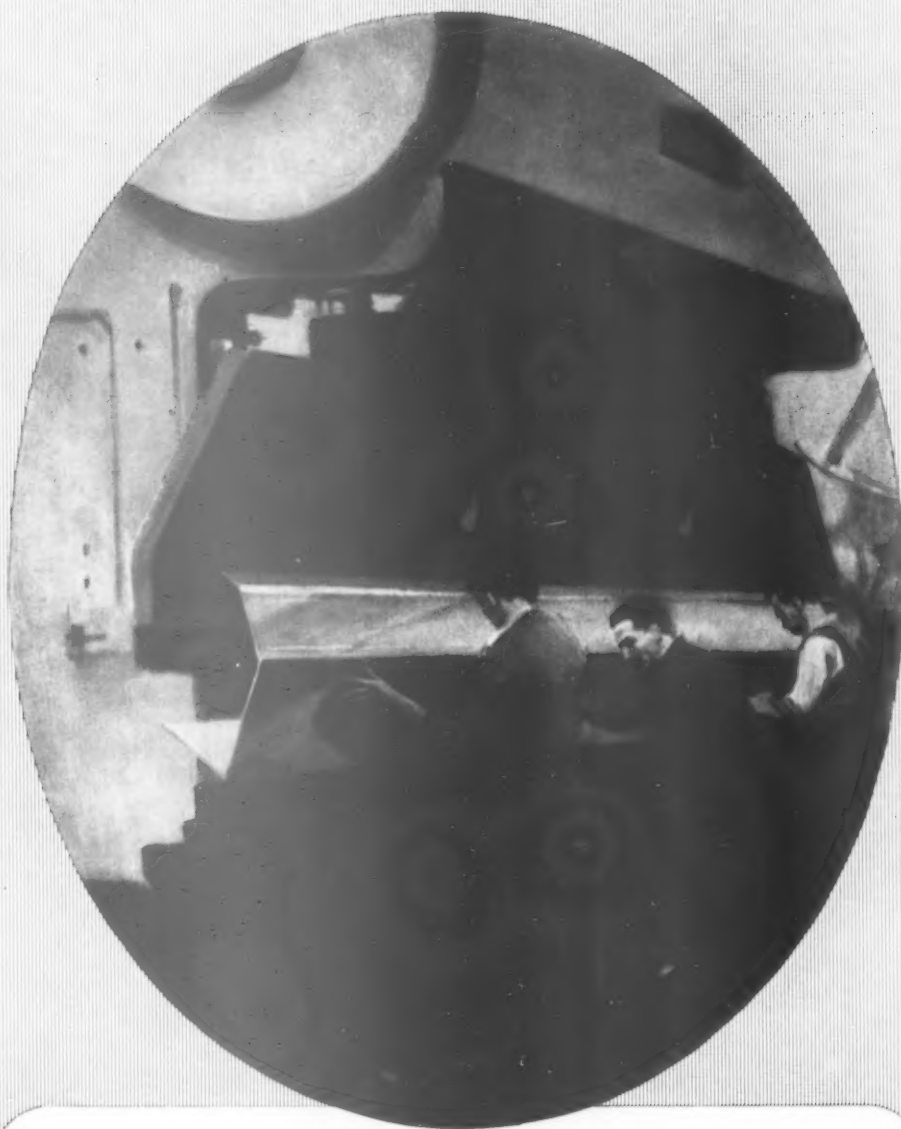
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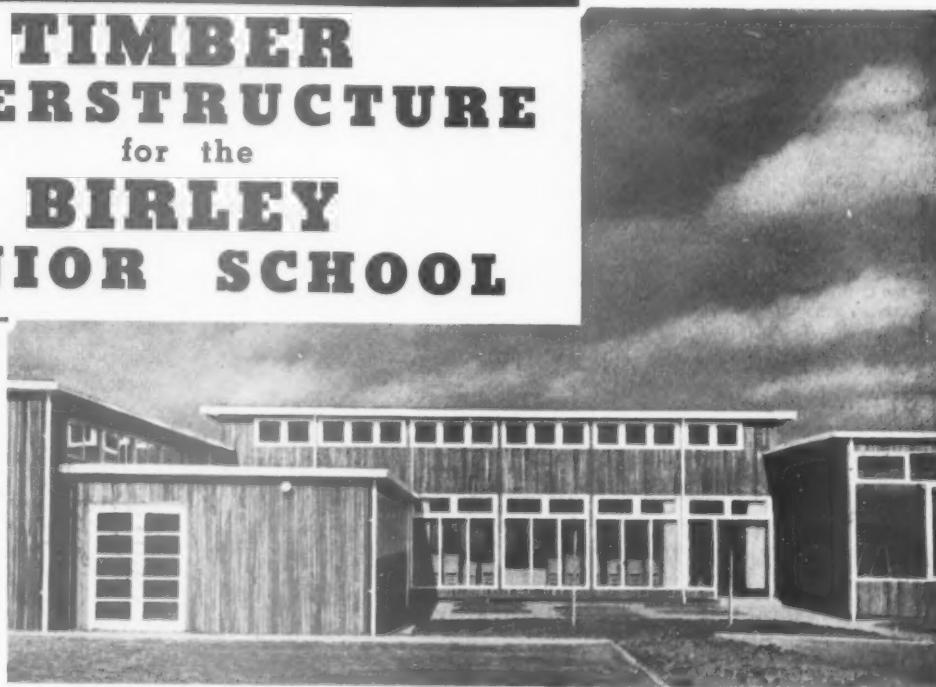
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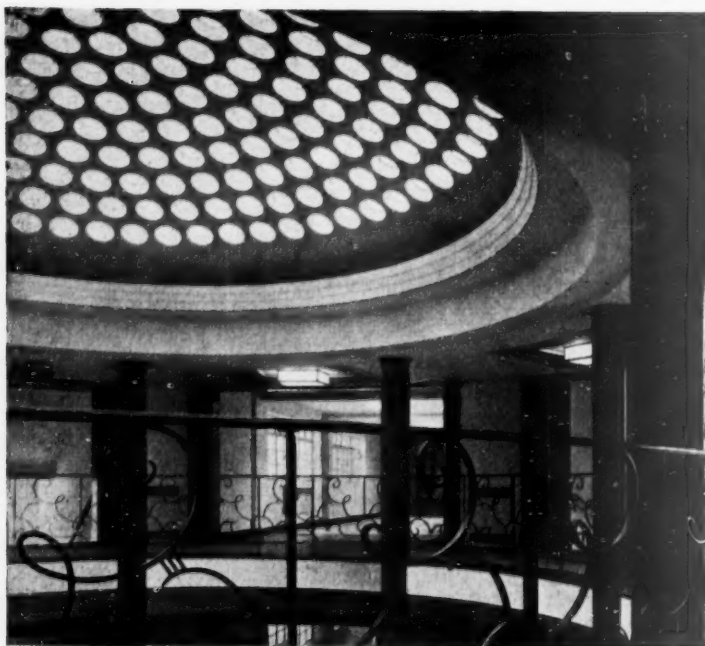
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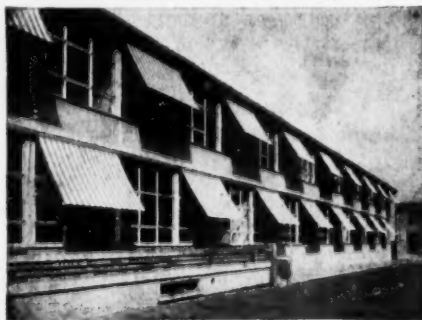
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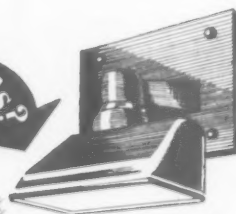
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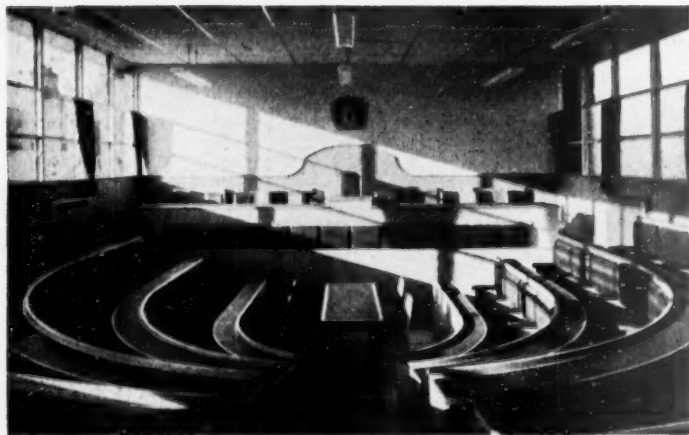
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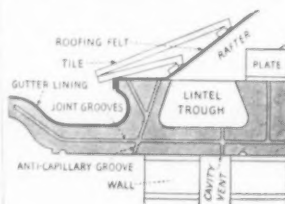
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PARKS FOR THE CARS

THE Ministry of Transport has just published its Report of the Working Party on car parking in central London. The body making the Report was set up, in 1951 as a result of the earlier report on Traffic Congestion by the London and Home Counties Traffic Advisory Committee.

The new Report makes three independent proposals, which, however, "must be treated as a whole . . . it would be unsound merely to approve one or two of them." These suggestions are for the construction of garages; below ground under some of the London Squares and above ground in special buildings, both being for long-period parking; for the introduction of parking meters, for short-period parking; and for the introduction of a new and balanced system of waiting regulations.

The whole of the Report is concerned with the alleviation of congestion by methods which accept it as a necessary evil of any central area. The overall policy seems to be to remake and mend rather than to replan; to extend the principle of allowing the use of highways and amenity open spaces for the purpose of parking motor vehicles, mostly private cars, without reference to general town-planning principles and as a means of placating the motorist who insists on using his private vehicle instead of public transport within the central area.

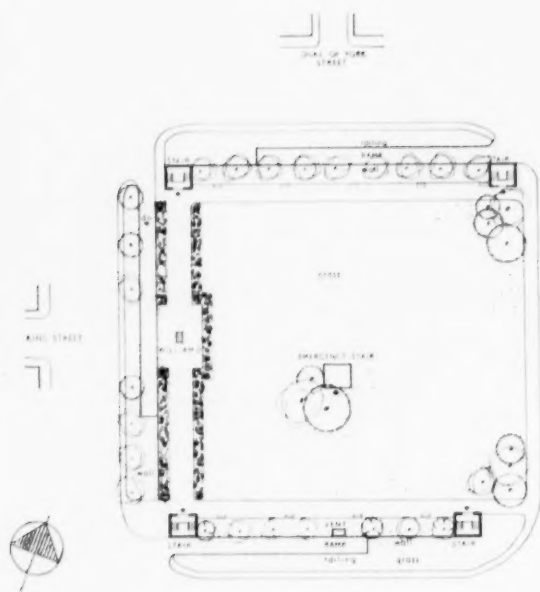
The elaborate parking surveys included in the Report for certain inner London Areas, while instructive on congestion, do not attempt to analyse or classify the use of the vehicles counted. In many shopping and office areas the passenger-moving use made of most of the cars using the roads for movement or parking at any given time is one person per car and one man-handlable parcel per person. A watch on the daily peak-hour business influx and exodus reveals the same fact: that most vehicles carry only one person; yet the congestion caused by this traffic is the very reason that public transport,

carrying a much greater number of people, is often slowed down to the average rate of passage through the central areas of about three-and-a-half miles per hour.

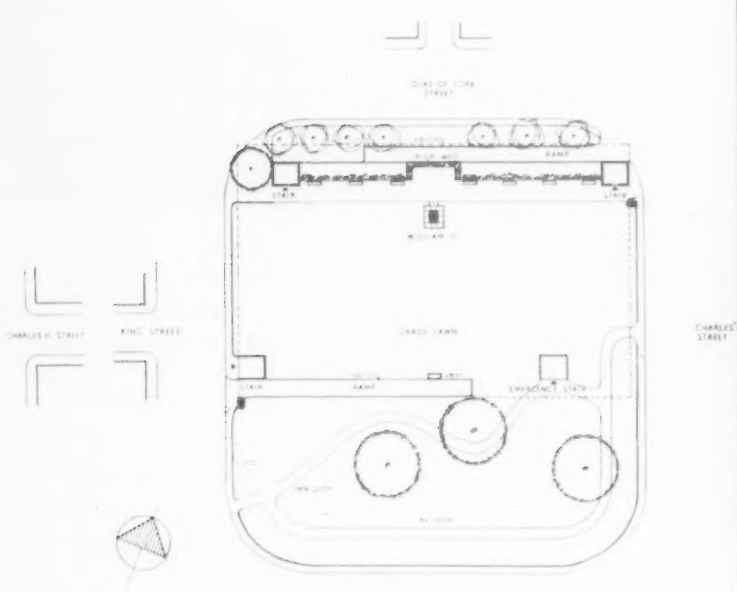
The areas around the four open spaces of Grosvenor, Cavendish, Berkeley and St. James's Squares are proposed for the first experiments of constructing underground car parks beneath the Squares and for the installation of parking meters. The latter are believed, in the Report, to be self-supporting and even to show a considerable profit; the former, being major constructions related to long terms and even to a proportion of cost being borne by Civil Defence, would be heavily subsidized and the returns more problematical. Any profit from either would, of course, be mentally added by the motorist to his contributions to the present misused road funds that he still feels a little sore about. It is not, however, possible here to comment upon detail estimates or hypothetical returns, but rather to question the wisdom of a piece-meal attack on a major problem.

The "west-end" is largely congested because it has become an "overspill" reception area for the varied pre-war activities of a still ruined and half-empty City. Although this may be an adequate reason for treating the maladies of the west-end first, it is not a reason for omitting to consider the full town-planning implications of the redevelopment of the City in relation to traffic. Contributions to this extended aspect have already been included in other Reports both from the Ministry of Transport itself and the old Ministry of Town and Country Planning. It is also sad that Sir Alker Tripp's book, *Town Planning and Road Traffic*, was first published in that dark year 1942, because its general thesis is as sound as the day it was written.

Roads are circulation ways and not spaces for the storage of motor cars, however short may be the periods allowed. Mixed uses of roads for rapid



SCHEME I



SCHEME II

St. James' Square. Two schemes for underground car park, that on the right for 420 cars leaves some of the existing trees.

Architects: Wornum & Playne, F.F.R.I.B.A.

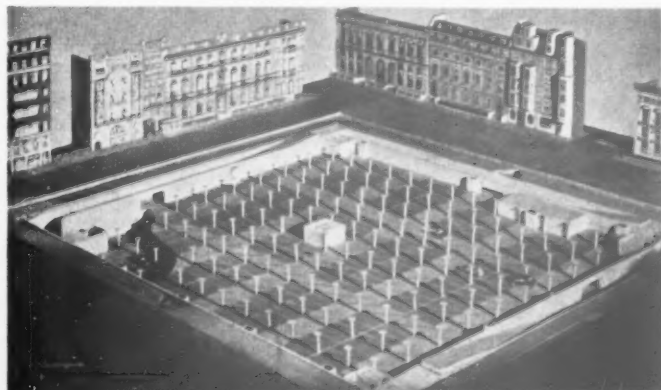
traffic, shopping, offices, pedestrians and slow-moving traffic are the fundamental causes of traffic congestion, coupled with the inevitability of a time-lag between the improvement of cars and the improvement of roads and parking. The vehicle is an ephemeral thing that can alter with fashion or invention, rapidly and without apparent control by even Government regulation or common sense in planning; the roads and buildings which cater for it are high-costing permanences which may be out of date within short periods, but which have to be endured because of vast capital sunk into them. The crux of the problem is a town-planning one and is concerned with the use of *all* ground within the congested centre and not with little bits of it.

If it is necessary to bar all private traffic for local use from certain areas and to route through-traffic around these areas, it should be done, if only to save the present colossal waste of fuel, time, and patience which present congestion creates. If it is necessary for all new or converted buildings to be put on stilts so that traffic can circulate in all directions beneath them, only limited by the vertical circulations from upper floors to basements and the streets, it should be insisted upon. If it is necessary for shops and pedestrians to be put above the traffic, say at first-floor level, it should be done. What may be a financial disaster for the future and fatal for many of its people is to encourage more traffic to use the centre by providing

more or less temporary subsidized amenities for it to do so within the present narrow streets and in squares which should be preserved for other and proper human amenities.

We are glad to see that something on these lines has been said or implied by the *only architect-town-planner* included in the Working Party, Mr. C. D. Buchanan, in a well-written and general note of reservation on the findings of the Report. There should have been more architects and town planners on this Working Party to keep the more sectionalized and specialized membership to a more comprehensive view of the wood and less of their own individual trees. Mr. Buchanan's remarks may eventually be ignored and bypassed, but he should be thanked for his action by all who think this problem needs comprehensive investigation over its whole field, into which should be made to fit the temporary ameliorations of limited actions.

Model showing parking plan, St. James' Square, Scheme 2





Showroom of Messrs. Carter & Co., London Ltd.,
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EVENTS AND COMMENTS

CORONATION SEATS

I now hear that the seats allotted to the R.I.B.A. have, in fact, been snaffled by the Council. It is therefore presumably too late for anything to be done except for me, and anyone who feels as I do, to register a protest. The R.I.B.A. has been quite silent on the subject, as well it might with no leg to stand on and thirty seats to sit on. It will, I believe, be argued by those in the know that the R.I.B.A. council was merely following precedent in keeping the Coronation seats for itself. I personally think it was a bad decision.

SIR HUGH ASKS FOR CUT PRICE ART

I suspect that I was the only other architect in the room when Sir Hugh Casson addressed the Arts Theatre Club last week. He had quite a night out. First he lashed his hosts for having no pictures on the walls of their dining-room—I must confess that I did not quite see where they were going to put them, what with the mirrors and panelling—then he accused them of walking about in blinkers and said that he did not suppose that any one of them could have told him what the outside of the Arts Theatre Club looked like, or of what materials it was constructed. Mind you, I do not suppose for a minute that he himself had any idea, either, but I am quite sure that that did not occur to his audience. How Sir Hugh connected these remarks up with a spirited attack on the price of art and the public's perpetual search for masterpieces when it should be trying out something less excellent, I do not remember. He certainly had his audience's attention, and he and they enjoyed themselves enormously. Artists, said Sir Hugh, should ask less money for their works. Gallery commissions should be slashed and pictures should be sold either in cheap frames or frameless. He suggested that the reason that the plinths for sculpture on Waterloo Bridge were still empty was because those responsible were terrified that whatever they put there would not be a masterpiece. Sir Hugh

thought that they should have a go, and if they did not like what they put there in five years' time, let them tear it down or throw it in the river, and then commission something else. If artists would charge less for murals, more would be painted, and people would not be so scared of painting them out when they were tired of them, and so on. All very spirited. Someone asked whether he would rather have bad pictures than no pictures on the walls of the club, "You needn't have bad pictures," he answered. In the middle of dinner Sir Hugh was taken out to be photographed with two beautiful actresses. "What," he said to one of them while waiting for the flash, "do you think of Town and Country Planning?" "I'm looking forward to it tremendously," she replied with a dazzling smile. The first bulb burst and the company reached for its guns. One-third of the picture was published in the *Evening Standard*, but it did not include Sir Hugh.

SMOKELESS FIRES IN THE HOUSE

My Parliamentary spy tells me that open fires in the House of Commons have recently disappeared, and their places have been taken by electric fires with imitation glowing coals. Furthermore, it appears that an unofficial poll has revealed that a vast majority of members is in favour of their retention. They could, after all, scarcely be more of a sham than the building itself. I must make it perfectly clear that I, personally, am a great admirer of the building but not of that type of fire.

CAR PARKS IN SQUARES

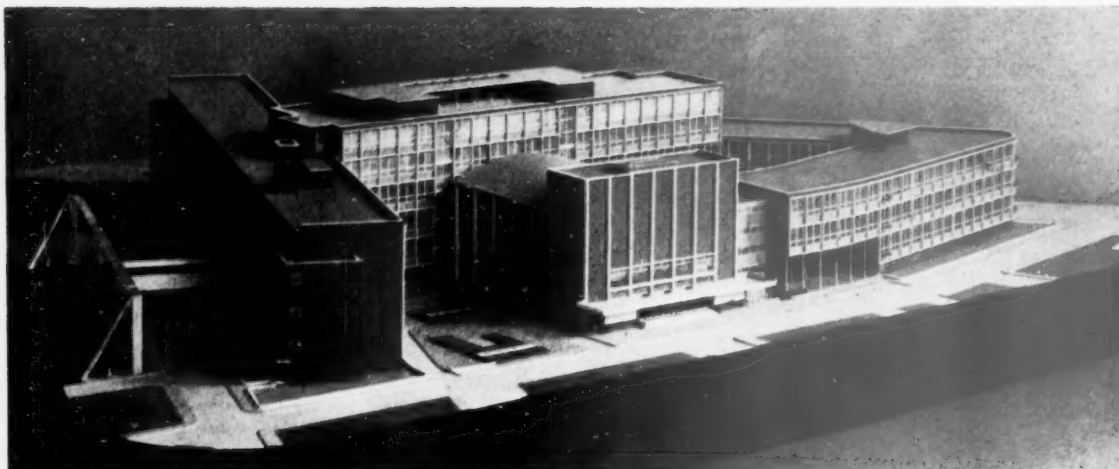
When I said last week that I feared for the trees in those London Squares destined to have car parks beneath them, I hoped that I had merely seen a bad drawing. Now I find that all trees would certainly go. If Berkeley Square is not what it was architecturally it still has fine trees. From there to Soho Square is but a step, and then on to who knows where? Can we consider even Bedford Square safe once the rage starts? Is the squares plan, after all, such a good one?

CARTERS ON THE TILES

The Albert Embankment is not a place I go to every day; in fact, looking west across the river—for the Thames flows north and south just there—towards the Tate Gallery gently floodlit one feels in a different city. However, a personal invitation from A. B. Read set me looking up my bus maps to find out how to get there. Carter and Company, the tile people, have been at No. 29 for years, but have just had their showroom remodelled by Katz and Vaughan in hardwood and tiles. I liked the scheme very much and feel sure that the pleasant atmosphere will help their customers to make the right choice. Leaving my hat and coat in an upper room I was impressed by the siting of the office. The Thames before, with its constant procession of boats, and the railway behind with everything from the Atlantic Coast Express to the two-thirty-two to Tooting to watch. How anyone gets any work done there is a mystery to me. Last week I referred to the hand-painted tiles shown in the Building Centre Schools exhibition. I should have called them hand printed. Peggy Angus designed them.

LIONEL PEARSON

This winter has taken an unusually heavy toll of the senior members of the architectural profession. Our latest loss is Mr. Lionel Pearson, who died on March 19,



A model of the ultimate scheme for the Borough Polytechnic designed by Norman & Dawbarn an article on which appeared in last week's issue. This view shows the main entrance in Keyworth Street and on the left the bridge connecting the first part of the scheme, now completed, with the old building.

aged 73. A former Vice-President of the A.A., he had not been seen there often in recent years. When he could be prevailed to speak at meetings he always had something to say very worthwhile listening. He seemed to me really to understanding building and to think about it in that loving and scholarly way that is becoming, alas, only too rare in the profession.

20TH CENTURY FORM

This entertaining title has been given to an exhibition opening on Wednesday, April 8, for six weeks, at the Whitechapel Art Gallery. It will consist of sculpture, painting and architecture of the last fifty years. The British part of the architectural section will consist entirely of models and is being arranged by Trevor Dannat.

TITO

The Yugoslav foreign minister has thanked the British people for the warmth of its welcome to Marshal Tito. Seen from the inside of a bullet-proofed car, through a screen of large crash-helmeted motor-cycle police, the whole travelling at a speed of 17 miles in 20 minutes, I think that Mr. Popovic was a very clever man to be able to discern anything about the British people at all. Neither you nor I are in a position to judge whether the fantastic security precautions seen in London last week were necessary, but it is important that the Marshal should know that we do not usually conduct our official guests around like that. When some important person from abroad comes to visit us we ask no questions but like to accord him a London welcome such as Mr. Popovic suggests we have in fact given Marshal Tito. Between you and me the sight of that procession blinding through our streets gave me the creeps. God forbid that it should ever become general in this country.

IF SEVEN MAIDS WITH SEVEN MOPS . . .

If only one million of the five million households which now relied entirely on solid fuel for hot water changed to gas water heating for the 22 summer weeks nearly three-quarters of a million tons of raw coal would be saved. This statement by the chief technical officer of Watson House reminds me that if everyone in the metropolitan borough in which I live were to give me a halfpenny I should never have to go to work again.

THE WOODWORM AND YOU

The sad story of a deaf and dumb old lady, upon whom a woodworm infested ceiling fell, burying her for three days, has prompted an anonymous poet to submit the following lines:

*Old mother Lumb was deaf and dumb
Her night cap commonly was rum
The WOODWORM on the other hand
is sober, keen of hearing AND
Industrious at eating wood. He
nibbled beams above her head. She
Snored unheeding till one night
The ceiling Fell and buried her
This shows what damage worms can do
NEXT TIME it mayn't be her but you!*

THE ENGLISHMAN'S CASTLE, OR WAIT TILL YOU SEE THE WHITES OF THEIR EYES

At a recent sitting of the London C.C. London Development Plan Enquiry an objector said "I would shoot anyone trying to take my home away from me." Our anonymous poet again—

*It was a Summer evening
Old Abner's work was done,
And he before his cottage door
Was pulling-through his gun
And in the garden flower bed
Lay the L.C.C. inspector, dead.*

"LE MODULOR" IN ENGLISH

Faber and Faber announce an English translation of Le Corbusier's famous book to appear in the autumn.

M. Le Corbusier arrives in London on 31st to receive the Royal Gold Medal. He will take luncheon at the French Embassy, and dine with the P.R.I.B.A. after the ceremony—which is due to begin at 6 p.m. On April 1 a dinner in his honour is being given at the A.A. Booking for this dinner has been so heavy that the decision that each member might bring a guest has had to be rescinded and a ballot will have to be held for members. Admittance to the after-dinner meeting, when M. Le Corbusier will speak, is by ticket only. The master returns to Paris early the next morning.

ABNER

NEWS OF THE WEEK

Notes from the Minutes of the R.I.B.A. Council Meeting held on March 3

Appointments.

General Council for the National Registration of Plumbers: Annual Meeting, Blackpool, May 22, 1953: Appointment of R.I.B.A. Delegate.

Mr. Harold M. Hedges, L.R.I.B.A., President of the Blackpool and Fylde Architectural Society.

R.I.B.A. Architecture Bronze Medal: The Nottingham, Derby, and Lincoln Architectural Society: R.I.B.A. Representative to serve on Jury.

Mr. W. Cecil Young, F.R.I.B.A., President of the Manchester Society of Architects.

B.S.I. Committee CEB/10: Recommended Dimensions for Reinforced Concrete Structural Members: R.I.B.A. Representatives.

Mr. F. A. C. Maunder, F.R.I.B.A., and Mr. E. H. Sadler, A.R.I.B.A.

The Honorary Corresponding Membership.

Professor Otto Bartning, President of the Bund Deutscher Architekten, has accepted the Council's nomination for election as an Honorary Corresponding Member (Germany).

R.I.B.A. Reception, 1953.

Arrangements for the R.I.B.A. Reception were approved. The Reception will be held on Friday, May 29, 1953, from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. The price of tickets will be 15s each. There will be an exhibition in the Library entitled "The Royal Patronage." There will be dancing in the Florence Hall and a series of short film shows in the Jarvis Hall.

Scale of Fees for State-aided Housing Schemes.

The Council considered a report from the Offices of the Practice Committee who had studied evidence on increased costs in connection with housing work collected by a Sub-committee from a large number of members. The Council expressed their appreciation of the work done by the Sub-committee and the Officers of the Practice Committee, and it was agreed to send the evidence forward to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government in support of the Royal Institute's case for an increase in the Scale of Fees for State-aided Housing Schemes.

Amendment to British Standard 990: 1945: Metal Casement Windows and Casement Doors.

The Council considered a reply from the Director of the British Standards Institution to the representations which had been made (reported in the Notes from the Minutes of the last meeting of the Council). Reference was made to the previously accepted principle that draft British Standards must secure general consent before imple-

mentation, and apprehension was expressed at what appeared to be evidence of departure from this principle in recent instances. It was agreed to nominate representatives to discuss the matter more fully with the Director, B.S.I.

Superannuation Schemes for Assistants in Private Practice.

The Council considered a report from the Allied Societies' Conference, which had given further consideration to the problem of providing a group superannuation scheme for assistants in private practice. The Conference had expressed the opinion that the replies to a questionnaire previously circulated did not, in fact, show sufficient support to merit launching the scheme, and that the economic situation was still such as to make prospects doubtful. The Conference recommended that further consideration be postponed for two years, but that the attention of members generally should be drawn to the advantages of superannuation schemes for individual offices which could be underwritten by the leading insurance companies, and also to various forms of sick benefit and provident schemes which were available. It was agreed to approve the recommendation of the Allied Societies' Conference.

Joint Committee on Tendering Procedure.

The President stated that local authority associations had declined to take part in the investigation into tendering procedure under the leadership of the R.I.B.A., which had been suggested by the Minister of Works. The Minister was anxious that the enquiry should proceed and had suggested that it should be conducted within the industry itself. This proposal had the agreement of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors and the National Federation of Building Trades Employers, and it had accordingly been decided to go ahead with a view to making a report to the Minister, if possible before the summer recess. In addition to the President, the following representatives of the R.I.B.A. were appointed to the Joint Committee:—

Mr. A. R. F. Anderson, F.R.I.B.A.

Mr. Harold Conolly, F.R.I.B.A.

Mr. T. Cecil Howitt, F.R.I.B.A.

Mr. Charles Woodward, A.R.I.B.A.

Risk of Fire during Building Operations to Buildings of Architectural and Historic Importance.

The Council considered a report of the Science Committee on the need of greater precautions against the outbreak of fire during building operations on buildings of architectural and historic importance, and approved the Committee's recommendation that the Royal Institute should collaborate with the Fire Protection Association, and if necessary with other interested bodies in formulating recommended measures for fire protection.

Information for Members on the Work of Committees.

The Council approved a proposal that articles should appear periodically

in the R.I.B.A. Journal giving a review of the responsibilities and work of various standing Committees.

Bailey Report on House Interiors; and Ministry of Housing and Local Government Circular No. 8/53.

It was agreed to refer the Bailey Report on House Interiors to the Town and Country Planning and Housing Committee for detailed consideration.

Exhibition of Mural Paintings

The work of many well-known British artists will be on view next month when an Exhibition of Mural Paintings opens at the Royal Institute of British Architects on April 10.

The exhibition, which has been prepared by the Society of Mural Painters in collaboration with the Royal Institute, is an attempt to make known something of the revival in mural painting that has occurred in this country in recent years. It should be of interest to the general public as well as to architects. Each of the thirty panels of which the exhibition will consist has been designed for a specific (although sometimes hypothetical) building—often in collaboration with an architect.

It is, in fact, one of the aims of the exhibition to help "bridge the gap" between architecture and painting, and to show how a modern building can often be greatly enriched by the art of mural painting.

It will be physically impossible to include in each case full-sized murals in the exhibition, but the artists have painted mural panels, which by virtue of their size—they are all over seven feet high—and manner of execution achieve a broad architectural effect. The panels themselves will be shown in architectural settings—a form of exhibiting which has not previously been attempted.

Vanessa Bell, Hans Feibusch, Duncan Grant and John Hutton are a few of the artists who have painted panels specially for the exhibition and it is hoped that there will also be a panel from Augustus John, who is President of the Society of Mural Painters.

The exhibition, which will remain open till May 2, will be on view from 10-7 on Monday-Friday, and from 10-5 on Saturdays. Admission will be free.

Cancellation of R.I.B.A. Lecture

Owing to the death of Dr. C. Roland Woods, M.B.E., LL.B., Ph.D., there will be no Science Lecture on Tuesday, April 21. Dr. Roland Woods was to have read a paper on "Building Legislation—a Help or a Hindrance."

EXHIBITIONS REMINDER

The following exhibitions close on March 28:—

"Britain Builds for Education," at the Building Centre, 9.30-5 (Sats. 9.30-1). "Building in The Netherlands," at the R.I.B.A., 10-7 (Sat. 10.30-5). Daily Mail Ideal Home Exhibition, Olympia, 9.30-9.30.

IN PARLIAMENT

Scots Committee Discharged

Mr. McInnes asked the Secretary of State for Scotland if, in view of the fact that he had requested the Scottish Building Costs Committee not to continue their investigations, he would discharge the committee. Mr. Stuart stated that in view of the accumulated information now available to his Department about building costs, he had told the committee, who had made so material a contribution, that the time had come when their task could be regarded as having been completed. He was grateful to the chairman, Sir George Laidlaw, to the members of the committee, and also to Mr. McInnes, who was himself a member for some time, for their work. (March 19.)

City Communities

Mr. Awbery asked the Minister of Housing and Local Government if he was aware of the lack of community centres in our cities' housing estates; and if he would see that new housing sites were provided with communal meeting places, with a view to encouraging the friendly and co-operative spirit of these new communities. Mr. Macmillan said that he was seeing what more could be done to encourage the provision of community centres for the new housing estates. (March 19.)

Local Authority Contracts

Mr. Gough asked the Minister of Housing and Local Government if he would issue a circular encouraging local authorities to put out to public tender all contracts for civil engineering and road maintenance before resorting to the practice of direct labour. Mr. Marples, the Parliamentary Secretary, pointed out that Section 266 of the Local Government Act, 1933, made plain Parliament's intention that public invitation to tender for contracts for the execution of works should be the rule. The model standing orders with respect to contracts issued for the guidance of local authorities were framed to embody this principle, and the memorandum accompanying them stressed the importance of adhering to it. The Minister did not think that an additional circular was required. (March 17.)

Frontagers' Liabilities

Mr. Remnant asked the Minister of Works how far his regulations provided that the £500 licence-free allowance for repairs should include a frontager's repairs to footpath and road where this was applicable. Mr. Eccles stated that where portions of unadopted roads or footpaths formed part of the frontager's property, as defined in the Control of Building Operations (No. 18) Order, 1952, work on those portions of the road or footpath came within the licence-free allowance for the property. (March 17.)

National Theatre Site

Sir Wavell Wakefield asked the

Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Works, as representing the Lord President of the Council, to what extent the proposed change in the site for the National Theatre from the area adjoining Waterloo Bridge to that adjacent to County Hall would affect the scheme for developing the Science Centre on the South Bank; and whether he would make a further statement with regard to progress in connection with the latter scheme, which had already been approved in principle by the Government. Mr. Molson stated that the proposed change of site for the National Theatre would in no way affect the carrying out of the decision to build a Science Centre on the South Bank. The site proposed for the Science Centre was downstream from Waterloo Bridge; both the old and new sites for the Theatre were upstream. The Minister of Works had said that the planning of the Centre had had to be deferred in view of the need for economy. The Lord President appreciated the importance of this project, which he fully intended to pursue when economic conditions permitted. (March 18.)

OBITUARY

The death has been announced of Mr. Lionel Godfrey Pearson on March 19 at his home at Roehampton. He was 73. As a partner in the firm of Adams, Holden and Pearson he was associated with a large number of notable buildings, including the London Underground Headquarters building at St. James' Park, which was awarded the London Architecture Bronze Medal in 1929; a number of hospitals, among which was the new Westminster Hospital, The Royal Westminster Ophthalmic Hospital, Bristol Royal Infirmary, The Southern Hospital and the Mineral Water Hospital, Bath. Mr. Pearson was also responsible for the architectural part of the Artillery War Memorial at Hyde Park Corner and the memorial to W. H. Hudson.

In any representative selection of the best work carried out between the wars, that of Mr. Pearson and his firm would rank very high and in many respects is typical of this period at its best.

The death has also been announced on March 18 of Mr. James MacGregor, M.A., F.S.A., F.R.I.B.A., M.T.P.I., Dip.T.P. Mr. MacGregor was Director of the Department of Architecture in Cambridge University.

The death has also occurred of Mr. A. Hugh Mottram, F.R.I.B.A., F.R.I.A.S., F.S.A.Scot., a former President of the Edinburgh Architectural Association, at Gullane, at the age of 67.

COMING EVENTS

Royal Institute of British Architects.

March 27 at 6 p.m. Mock Arbitration. At 66, Portland Place, W.1.

March 31 at 6 p.m. Presentation of Royal Gold Medal to Le Corbusier. Builders' Benevolent Institution.

March 31. Annual Dinner at Grosvenor House.

Architecture Club Supper

A Supper of the Architecture Club was held at Chez Auguste, Soho, on Wednesday, March 18, followed by a Debate on the proposition "that Committees are incapable of Taste." Viscount Esher presided. The Debate was opened by Mr. A. S. G. Butler, F.R.I.B.A., and Mr. Robert Matthew, C.B.E., A.R.I.B.A., and was continued by Mr. Darcy Braddell, Sir Hugh Casson, the Rt. Hon. David Eccles, M.P., Mr. W. G. Fiske, Mr. Gilbert Ledward, Sir George Pepler and Mr. Henry Strauss, M.P.

CORRESPONDENCE

Skyscrapomania

To the Editor of A. & B.N.

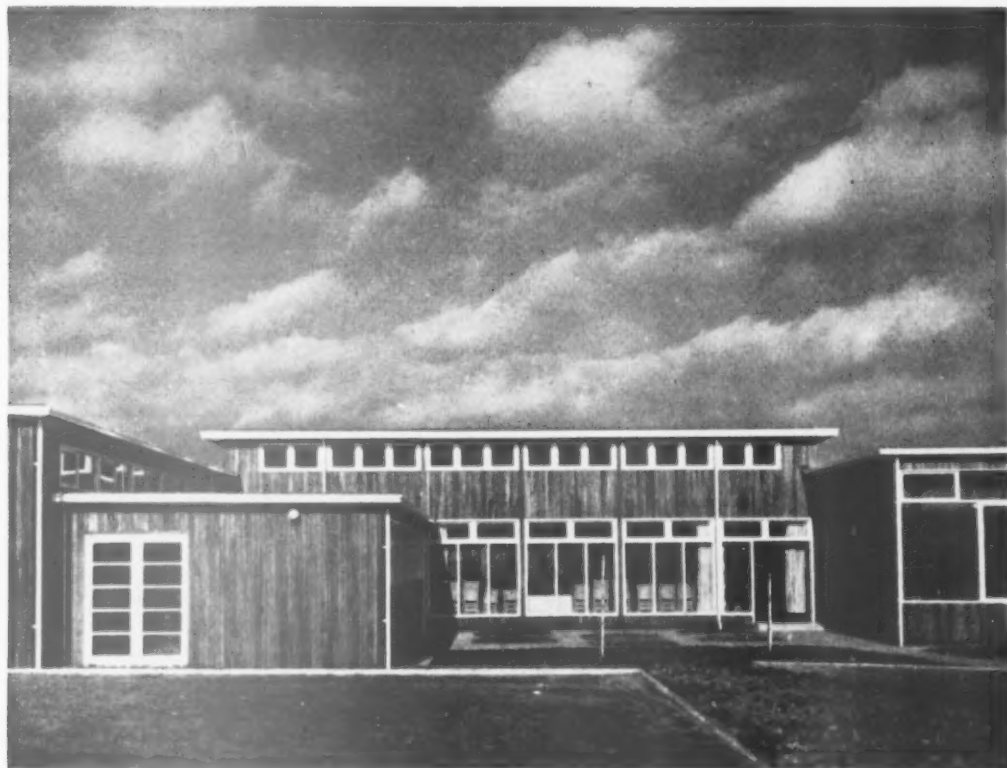
Sir,—Why this positive mania for building high, at all costs it seems, just now of all times? It's less than 20 years since it was ever so "up to date," or we were led to believe at the time, to stress the horizontal in all our building work—very Continental—even our vertical proportioned window panes that had been so carefully designed were "wrong," we were told. No "modern" self-respecting speculative builder of the 1930s could hesitate to comply with the latest Corbusier-style, and the steel window manufacturers "saw the light" and their standard windows were duly amended in design—reaching from wall to wall (and all very thin). They could not be fixed on a windy day owing to their weak construction and design, which was awkward at times!

Now, in view of THE BOMB, Frank Lloyd Wright's earlier types of "organic" structure would seem to be nearer the mark for the future. The apertures could be built up quickly and the flat roofs earthed over and made blast resisting. Steel and glass skyscraper structures as visualized at present for rebuilding commercial and domestic work would "catch the draught" pretty badly, it would seem. They are very costly to erect and use much structural steel that could perhaps be put to better use, as has been found necessary in the United States recently. Zoning there is now much stricter for various very good reasons, no doubt!

Your illustration of the Hitchin Gasometer seen above the fog would surely make a very nice target from the air, and shows, I think, how important it will be to keep buildings in our towns and cities of the future below the fog line. In fact, London's fog bank would probably be an Atomic Bomber's biggest headache and not skyscrapers glistening in the clear moonlight far above the earth. Comrade, what a target for to-night—this way to the Deep Shelters, please.

I am, etc.,

A. NEVILLE HOLT.



BIRLEY JUNIOR SCHOOL

Handsworth Woodhouse Estate, Derbyshire

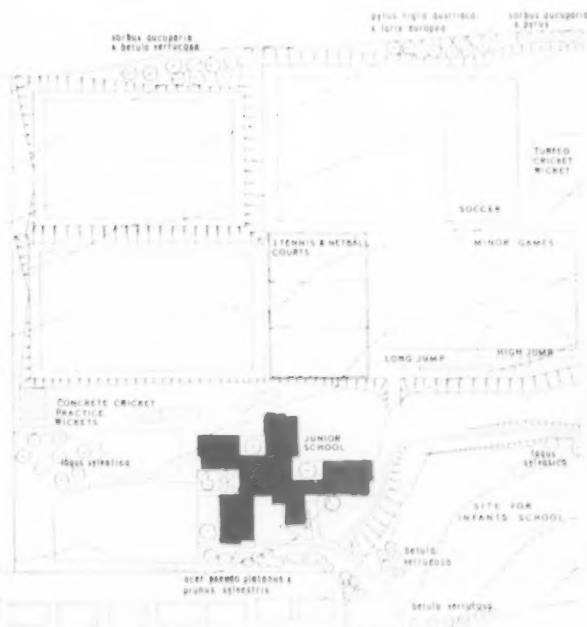
COUNTY ARCHITECT FOR DERBYSHIRE : F. HAMER CROSSLEY, Dip.Arch.(L'pl.) F.R.I.B.A.

ASSISTANT COUNTY ARCHITECT (NEW SCHOOLS) : F. K. HICKLIN, A.R.I.B.A.

SENIOR ARCHITECT : D. TURNBULL, A.R.I.B.A., Dip.T.P.

ASSISTANT ARCHITECT : P. RICHARDSON, Dip. Arch.

QUANTITY SURVEYOR : JOHN C. BARNESLEY, F.R.I.C.S.



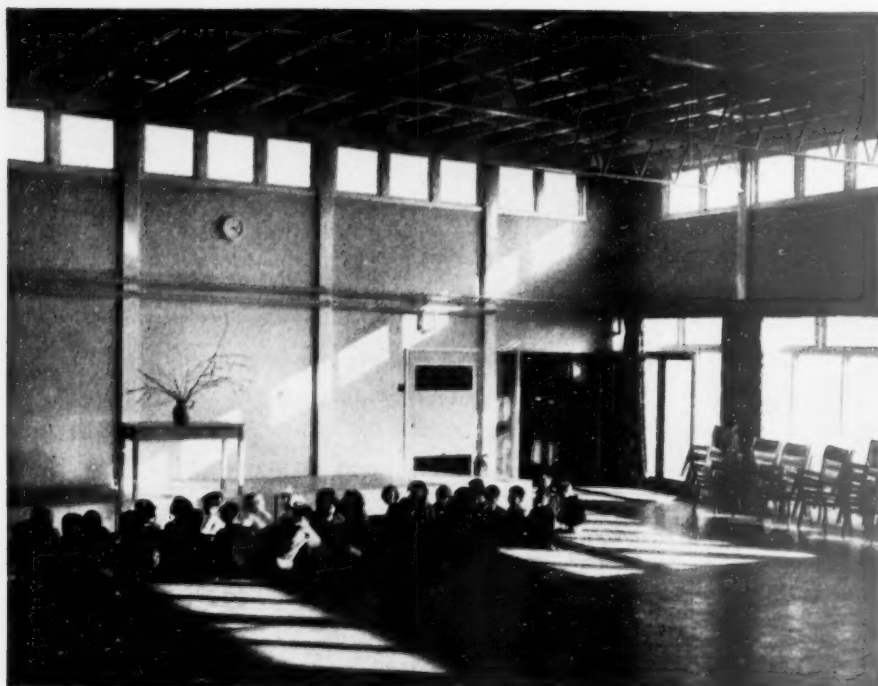
THIS is one of six schools planned by the Derbyshire Education Authority in an area of Derbyshire which is being developed for housing by Sheffield City Corporation. All six schools have been admitted by the Ministry of Education to the current year's Building Programme, and when completed they will provide over 2,000 additional school places for children who have been arriving on the new estates since 1951 and who will continue to arrive until 1954. Birley School is the first of these schools to be completed. It was clear from the outset that exceptional measures

would have to be taken to provide this school so as to bring it into use not later than the existing schools in the area had been filled to capacity by the influx of new children. Wooden construction was decided upon, partly for speed and partly to minimize the difficulties of a site where there was some small danger of subsidence, and also to economize in steel.

Having taken these decisions in principle the Authority then chose Messrs. Malthouse of Sheffield as General Contractors, and immediately impressed upon them the urgency of this job. Messrs. Malthouse agreed to

Landscape architects: Messrs. Barrons, Ltd.

Landscaping: J. Dudding & Partners



The Assembly Hall

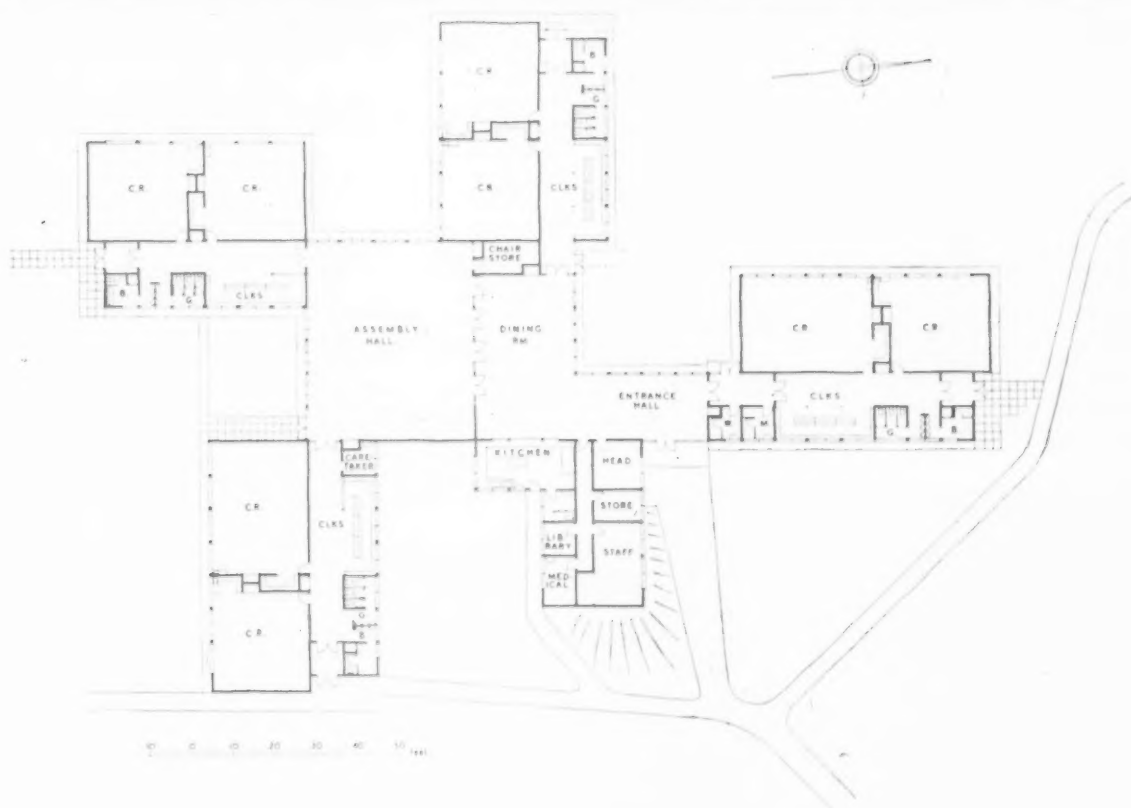


Dining Room and Entrance Hall

start work and to press operations forward with as little delay as possible, and in fact work on scraping the site began two days after instructions had been given. This was on September 11, 1952. Thereupon the contractor determined to follow a very rigorous schedule and his first requirement was that the wooden components should begin to be delivered on the site by October 31. At short notice Messrs. Vic Hallam of Langley Mill were approached and promised delivery by October 31 in spite of the difficulty caused by the fact that their planning had been to a 6ft 4in grid whereas the foundations already in the ground had been laid out to a 4ft grid.

From this point onwards with the full co-operation of all firms and sub-contractors employed on the site there have been no important delays, and indeed progress has for most of the time been ahead of schedule. Another fortunate circumstance has been favourable weather. By December it was clear that the contract would be completed within the six months and at that time the completion date was fixed as February 14, 1953, i.e., five months three days from start to finish.

The site chosen for the school is on the edge of the Handsworth Woodhouse Housing Estate and will be big enough for an infants' school, a nursery school and a secondary school as well as the school just completed which is for 320 junior children. The design provides four blocks of two classrooms situated round a central Assembly Hall, Dining Room and Scullery. Each classroom block has its own cloak and sanitary accommodation. A temporary boiler house has been provided to heat the school by a system of circulating warmed air, but the permanent arrangement on this site will be for a central boiler house in the secondary school to serve all the others as well. Similarly the cooking kitchen will be in the secondary school and temporarily meals are to be brought to



the junior school from a nearby cooking kitchen at Charnock Hall School.

The building is of light prefabricated wooden units faced with Lagos Mahogany weatherboarding. The Assembly Hall is of Hill's light frame construction with similar weatherboard cladding. The roof construction is wood

except to the Assembly Hall where Stramit decking is used. The roof finish is of two layer bitumen felt. Granwood floors are used throughout, and the internal wall finishes are of $\frac{1}{2}$ in plaster-board with flushed joint and painted with Emulsion paint.

The contract price of the building is £56,400.

General Contractors : W. Malthouse Ltd.

Assembly Hall Roof : Stramit Boards Ltd. Clocks : Smiths English Clocks Ltd. Clock Fittings : Vic Hallam Ltd. Curtains : Hope & Wild. Electrical Installation : County Works Department. Flooring : Granwood Flooring Co. Ltd. Furniture : George M. Hammer & Co. Ltd. Heating : Weatherfoil Heating Systems Ltd.

Internal Fittings : British Plaster Board Ltd. Ironmongery : Bennetts (Irongate) Ltd. ; Parker Winder & Achurch Ltd. Mats : The National Institute for the Blind. Paint : The Leyland Paint Co. Ltd. Roofing : The Ruberoid Co. Ltd. Sanitary Fittings : Thomas Crump & Co. Ltd. Steel Frame : Hills (West Bromwich) Ltd. Tar Paving : Hadfields (Merton) Ltd. Window Blinds : J. Avery (Est. 1834) Ltd. Wooden Components : Vic Hallam Ltd.

Blackheath and The Development Plan

By DEREK PLUMSTEAD, A.R.I.B.A.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY COLIN WESTWOOD

WITH an eye on future needs London's 1951 Development Plan Enquiry examines the conflicting problem of preservation and development at Blackheath. It is a problem common to all those erstwhile outer suburbs of earlier London—Sydenham Hill and Dulwich, Roehampton and Hampstead. Demands for their preservation have been strongly made but the L.C.C. cannot retain such low densities of layout when faced with the huge task of rehousing the badly housed without creating other difficulties. For instance, extensive preservation must either result in an increase in the overspill of population or a lowering of living standards elsewhere. Yet already they have been criticized for aiming at too low a standard. On the other hand, by turning to these neighbourhoods, where redevelopment causes least disturbance, both alternatives can be avoided.

The conflict is worsened by the absence of detailed proposals and a fear of a further retreat from ideals expressed in the Plan when they are prepared and presented as a *fait accompli*. Is it not a fact that certain coveted open spaces are being built upon which the 1943 Plan recommended should be retained? Moreover, confidence is wanted in the administering of the policies of the Plan in regard to the overspill problem and the architectural interpretation of the density proposals related to an enlightened preservation scheme. The mere preservation of listed buildings will not gain confidence; nor will current methods in allocating new houses which should be let primarily to families living in central areas scheduled for comprehensive redevelopment so as to clear them instead of working a points system that picks out families whose houses are scattered far and wide.* The Chairman of Paddington B.C. Housing Committee complains of the same thing in his letter to *The Times* of January 31, 1953.

*See article on New Towns in A. & B.N. for November 6, 1953.



Photo: A. R. Martin

1 A sample of the high quality of the architecture of some of the villas.

One of the objectors, the Blackheath Society, fears scant attention to the fine architectural heritage and a rapid change in the social composition of the neighbourhood. If the latter were sudden an exodus is likely of the very families capable of maintaining the best property.

The Society is also appreciative of the L.C.C. problem and concedes the need for some modern development but wants it to replace the bad. Moreover, they are rightly concerned also with preserving their environment.

The Problem

The neighbourhood under consideration consists of good, bad and indifferent development surrounding the Heath to a varying depth of up to half a mile. Its character is derived not from a community development of great antiquity but mainly from the late eighteenth and early nineteenth century groups of country houses built on the fringe of the Heath. The village of Blackheath is later still, being little more than 100 years old.

The Heath, famous in earlier history, is a raised plateau above most of the surrounding development, and forms the main focal point of the neighbourhood. On the fringe post-war temporary prefabs. ruin an otherwise fine foreground to Georgian terraces and villas often of good quality. In other parts and adjoining renaissance Blackheath is inter-war speculative housing even mingling with the old.

Old Blackheath offers some of the finest examples of early and late renaissance architecture where the use of brick with stone can be seen at its best. There is Wren's famous Morden College reposing in its own quiet retreat of wooded gardens flanking the bare heath, the Manor House of Crooms Hill, attributed to Wren, the Paragon, the Colonade, Elliot Terrace and Dartmouth Grove, most of which have a spacious setting of large, deep gardens of sweeping lawns and foliage essential to their character, and, indeed, to that of Blackheath. Since they are still inhabited and in many cases well maintained their present use enhances their character and serves a modern need.

Contiguous to their setting is the prospect sometimes of commanding views, of the heath or of a rural paddock. The latter either serve the farmer or the community for church bazaars, etc. Part of the problem is how to retain or to remould this setting in any future development to avoid incongruity. One solution replaces the prospect of a paddock beyond the Colonade gardens with a vista of council house back gardens despoiling occasional wash-day clothes. The harshness of the change is greatly softened by the present fine cedar tree, and more similar planting would give added privacy. The sacrifice made is not excessive when needs for a change must be met.

No less important are some very charming avenues representative of the best of the last century, whose character could not be maintained merely by selecting from their midst individual buildings for preservation. Blackheath Park is an outstanding example. Its character is in the fine prospect of a wide avenue with fleeting views between flanking villas to the long back gardens. Moreover, modern conversion might adhere closely to the new density proposals.

The dominant feature is the famous heath itself, whose real attraction rests in the varying prospect. Commanding views and varying skyline of residential development, contributed by their ragged building line, give an excellent



Blackheath from the air

Aerofilms



2 A view over central London from the edge of the Heath.



3 From this spaciousness of Morden College to the more modest yet open environment of the Villa, Blackheath has a charm and excellence of character not found in the majority of the inner suburbs.



4 The Heath forms the foreground to the many vistas of a varied background of essentially domestic scale.



5 Not all of the Heath has a close cropped civilized appearance for here a sense of mystery pervades which recalls the lurking footpad of earlier times.

variation of scene. To replace this with high multi-storey blocks of flats would indeed be vandalism. How bleak the result if that principle of the density zoning proposals which creates a greater density at the fringe of big open spaces and a compensating lower density in more remote areas were interpreted in this way. Not only would the whole scale of the present setting provided by magnificent views across broad stretches of the Thames and over distant central London be altered, but its character would be utterly destroyed. This prospect is as important to its setting as the background is to Plymouth Hoe or the Backs are to the Cambridge Colleges. A low skyline is essential.

Nothing in the Plan necessarily means altering the skyline materially except perhaps this general statement of principle in regard to density interpretation in the detailed architectural schemes yet to be prepared and perhaps an infatuation for the high block. Moreover, the distribution of future development seems more likely to be determined by the availability of property on the market than by architectural conceptions of great importance.

There lies the danger for the absence of these details at the Inquiry may leave their preparation and execution free from healthy criticism which an Inquiry affords.

Again Blackheath Park is not actually shown for re-development yet no real safeguard for its preservation exists either or for any of the other essential features of the neigh-

bourhood. For instance, applications for planning permission may at any time jeopardize their future. Nor is there any statutory obligation placed upon the L.C.C. to consult with the Society in that event.

Of immediate importance in this respect is the plea made by Professor Bullocke for retaining some, at least, of the paddocks as private, open spaces. He stressed quite rightly that no other kind can satisfactorily meet the needs of the tennis club, church or other activities normal to a mixed community. No provision seems to have been adequately made for them if at all.

Objections made by estate landlords add other arguments peculiar to their case of which the most important is that the short-term lease of life imposed by the 20-year Plan amounts to "a sentence of death" on property value.

Naturally the uncertainty of a short-term leasehold is unpopular—at least one that is made public. Such hardships, however, might be fairly met if the market price to be paid on acquisition was that prevailing before the Plan was published.

The L.C.C. case on the other hand is based upon problems of regional and national importance. While responsible for preserving the best of local character the absence of available building land in the county also means that every little left and all outmoded and even good property of low density must be carefully scrutinized before deciding upon



6 Here the qualities of the common are seen at their best where the varying building line emphasizes the connection between foreground and distant background.



The Paragon



7 This avenue known as Blackheath Park contributes to the spaciousness of the Heath's hinterland where dignity and repose are finely balanced.



9 This shows what can happen to the paddock beyond.



8 The attractive backgardens show the important part the surroundings play in the character of one of the "listed" buildings.



10 One of a group of fine regency houses in Elliot Place on the southern edge of the Heath.

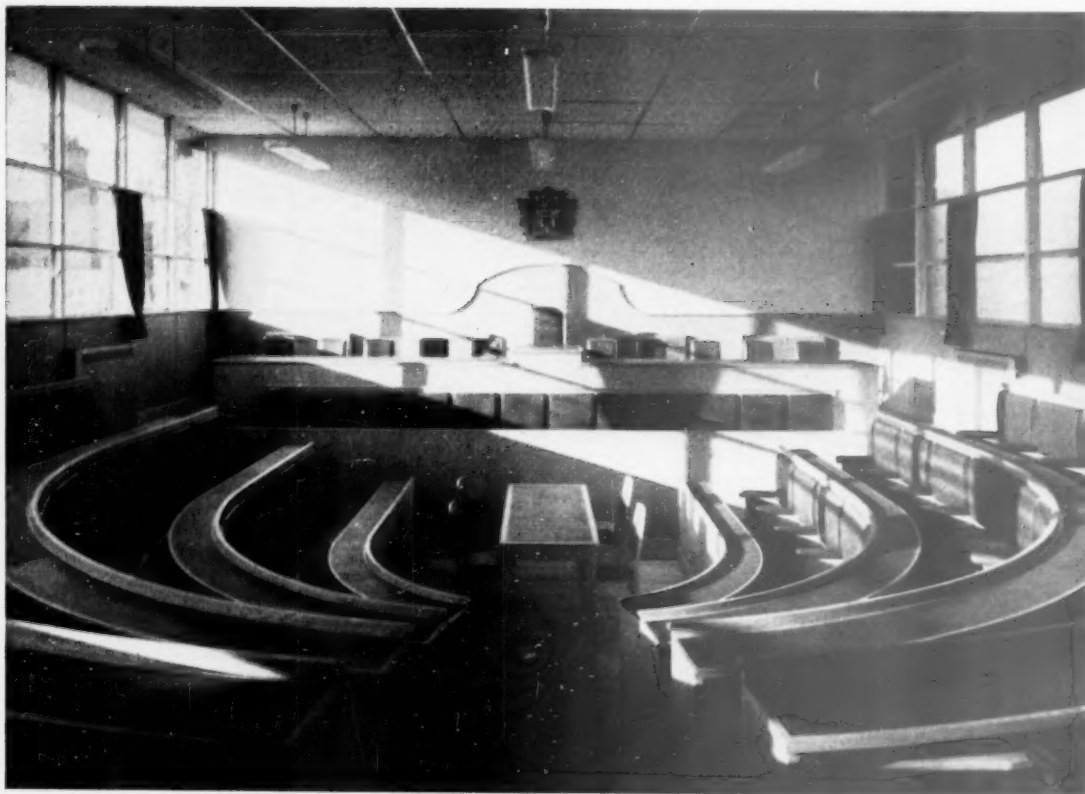
the extent of overspill of people into London's region.

Broadly that has been done and the L.C.C. contend that without their proposals they must either increase that overspill with a resulting loss of agricultural land or intensify the use of land in some other part of London at the expense of recreation space or by creating less desirable accommodation. At the national level of consideration an increased overspill by attracting families away from the London region altogether should be considered. After all, much of the greater London population increase was due to migration from the depressed areas in the 'thirties.

Apart from the rights and wrongs of the case the enquiry brought out another problem in town planning administration. To start building operations on land forming part of the Plan before objections are heard is most unfortunate. While the L.C.C. is obliged by ministerial direction to include in the Plan all schemes to be completed during the first five years whether approved before or after the submission of the Plan and while appreciating the urgency to build new houses quickly it is not unreasonable to expect adequate consultation between the L.C.C. and the Blackheath Society

at a suitable early stage. Such consultations are highly desirable when individual privacy and architectural scale is concerned, as in Professor Dobrée's case. Agreement to consult him at the later detailed stage can serve to enhance the value of the relatively new administrative arrangements set up by Mr. Mathew for co-ordinating the L.C.C. architectural and town planning activities.

Even so, if criticism is to be adequately met, a detailed survey and plan for the whole neighbourhood should be made before further changes occur. Only careful examination of the real assets inherited can permit enlightened discrimination in preparing a plan to weed out the bad and indifferent and to preserve what is best. Such a plan must be free from undue bias, for there is as much danger from the enthusiastic preserver as from the "over-zealous planner." While no good case can be made out, upon architectural grounds at least, to preserve Gloucester Circus it is equally important not to throw away so great an asset as the environs of the heath either by an infatuation for certain modes in architecture or by the dictates of available land and its value.



The Council Chamber

aluminium buildings erected by The Bristol Aeroplane Company (Weston) Ltd., and it was eventually decided that the buildings should be constructed mainly of aluminium.

The present buildings are noteworthy as being the first use of "Bristol" permanent aluminium buildings for local government offices, this system having previously been mainly used for school buildings.

The dominant feature of the group of offices is a two-storey central block in local and traditional stone. On either side of this block are single-storey aluminium wings, finished in a shade of gunmetal grey which harmonizes with the stone and with the building's surroundings. Behind this frontage is a further group of aluminium buildings, linked by a corridor to the central block and planned in such a way that, with the erection at a later date of a block of Finance offices, the whole scheme will form in plan a letter "H." The walls of the 2-storey block are of uncoursed random rubble with wide mortar joints, the Empire blue york stone dressings above the main entrance including a representation of the County Arms.

In the stone-built central block are the main entrance hall and linked to it by a corridor is the Education block, both in aluminium. There are special rooms for Government Audit purposes and for plan printing equipment.

A feature of the Council Chamber is the way in which the floor is sunk below the general floor level of the building to give an impression of height and an air of dignity. The floor is of polished hardwood, and the internal woodwork and furniture is of English and Japanese oak in natural colour. Seating for Council members, representatives of the Press, and members of the public is in Dunlopillo, with green hide coverings. The windows of the Chamber command a fine view.



Interior of one of the offices in an aluminium wing

The whole of the building is heated with a low-pressure central heating system, thermostatically controlled, and an automatic intercommunicating telephone system is installed.

The construction of the aluminium portions of the buildings is based on standard 4ft sections. The roof, of aluminium sheeting, is bonded to a layer of fibre board, below which at tie-bar level is fixed the finished ceiling of insulating board, overlaid with a glasswool quilt to provide excellent thermal and acoustic insulation. The deep eaves of the roof are designed to reduce glare. The walls are formed from aluminium framed panels filled with glasswool to provide thermal insulation.

The whole of the traditional work was carried out by direct labour, and masons trained by the County Surveyor's

[Continued on page 384]



The first pair of semi-detached type houses erected complete in 12 days

PROTOTYPE HOUSES FOR HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

Built in 12 days by Sir Robert McAlpine & Sons

architect: MAURICE BEBB

IN 1946 a pair of houses was erected on the L.C.C. Estate at Kidbrooke in fourteen days. These houses were designed so that they could be erected as a two-storey temporary building in the first instance, to which could be added the brick outer skin later on, when labour was available. The final building consisted of a 4½ in external brick wall, with a cavity and a prefabricated interior made up of 8ft x 4ft x 1½ in fibrous plaster slabs on timber framing. The internal units were lined with plaster on both sides and those externally were lined on the one side with asbestos, sheet steel or Ruberoid, to form a temporary weatherproof structure for a period of up to ten years. This house was known as the "Westminster" House and in its original condition it was cheaper than the Portal Bungalow and had the advantage of being planned as a permanent house with all ultimate requirements as far as services, drainage, fencing, etc., were concerned.

This scheme was offered in its entirety to the Government complete with all drawings, patents, etc., and any assistance necessary to get the scheme going, so that it could be used by any Contractor, gratis, to help solve the housing problem. It was not, however, adopted.

The "Hemel Hempstead"

In 1952 it was again considered policy to put a similar scheme forward, with the object of assisting the housing drive, and further attention was therefore given to the

prefabrication of the interior of housing. A new scheme was devised, with prefabricated interior and traditional exterior, based on the original "Westminster" House, and the General Manager of the Hemel Hempstead Development Corporation was approached with the project. He showed great interest and agreed to co-operate with Sir Robert McAlpine & Sons to carry out this experiment at Hemel Hempstead New Town.

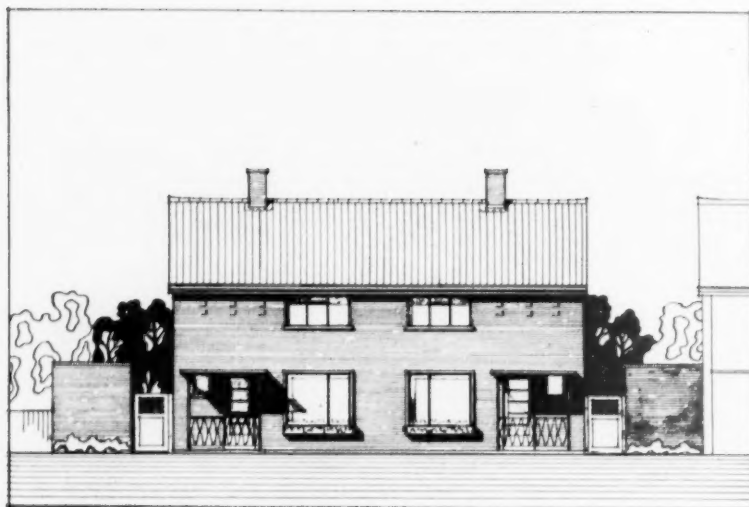
The idea was to erect five prototype houses (2 No. two-bedroomed semi-detached and 3 No. three-bed-roomed terraced type), so that the real cost could be ascertained and compared with that of traditional housing, as it is felt that this form of construction, which saves a considerable amount of building labour, could be carried out at a cost comparable with that of traditional building.

The first pair of houses was, in fact, erected complete in twelve days, and the remaining three, which started later as labour became available from the semi-detached pair, were finished within the fourteen days. The experiment, as far as erection time, design and finish are concerned, has proved successful and now it is a matter of the relative costs being computed and compared.

Planning

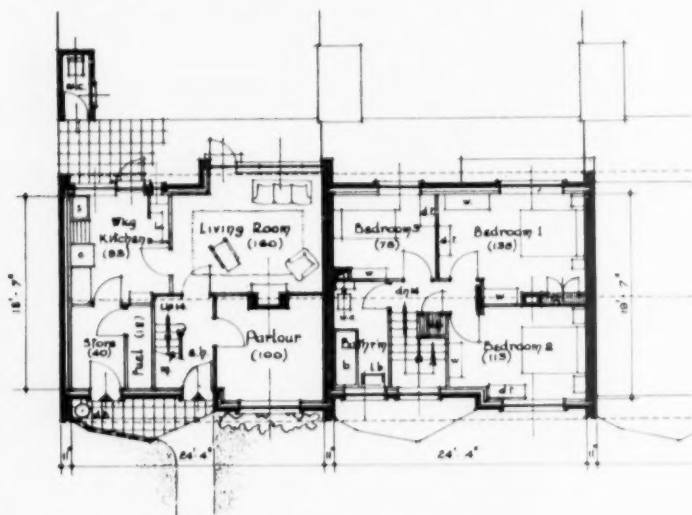
The houses consist of a pair of two-bedroomed, working kitchen houses, and a terrace of three-bedroomed houses with a large living room and a parlour.

This latter plan has been devised in order to obviate

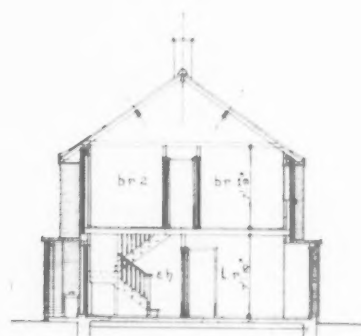


ELEVATION TO VAUXHALL ROAD

PROTOTYPE HOUSES



Two bedroom
semi-detached
type Scale: $\frac{1}{16}'' = 1 \text{ ft.}$



the criticism which is made in respect of houses with one large living room only. This smaller room which has been incorporated is only 100 square feet and is provided for television, quiet recreation or scholastic work by junior members of the family and it is felt that this is a very necessary adjunct to any future planning. It means that the family as a whole can live in a large comfortable room, but they have always at their disposal the other small room when required.

The rear and main entrances to the terrace type houses are necessarily on the front elevation and a screen wall has been provided in order to detract from the rear entrance and the usual receptacles, etc., which may be placed outside.

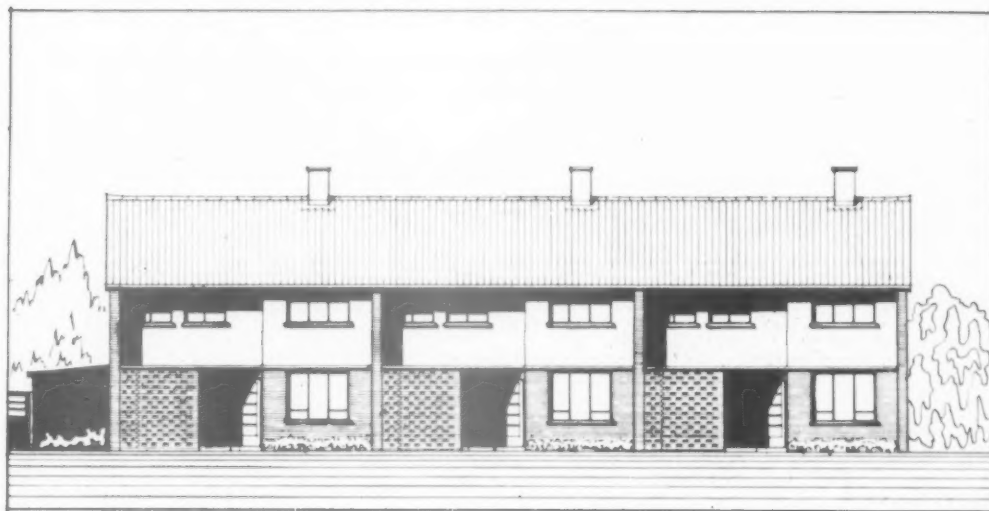
The staircase has been purposely kept to a width of 2ft 8in and the rise and going has been made much easier than is normal in small type housing, as it is felt that this is a serious fault in the majority of dwellings of this

type, and does not effect any particular economy.

Construction

The houses consisted of a $4\frac{1}{2}$ in outer leaf of brickwork interlined with 3in Gypsum Plaster Panels with a cavity between. In this instance the $4\frac{1}{2}$ in brick walling is designed with piers and lintels so that it is entirely load-bearing as far as the roofs and floors are concerned and the plaster partitioning (except in the case of the centre partitions where it is 4in load-bearing) is used as an infilling only.

Normally, on a contract of any size, the panels would be cut to shape before delivery to site, but in this instance as there were only five houses, they were cut on site and this did take some extra time, but was not detrimental to the programme. The house has been designed so that the standard 1ft 6in and 2ft panels can be used almost throughout, but of course with the intricate planning of small houses there are bound to be cases

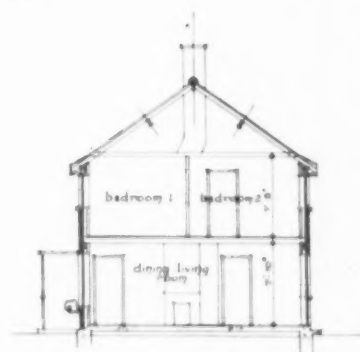


Plans, section and elevations, three-bedroom terrace type.



GROUND FLOOR PLAN

FIRST FLOOR PLAN



CROSS SECTION

where smaller units are required, but the material is easily cut and fitted.

The erection of these panels is comparatively simple—it is usual to start from one corner of a room where an 8ft. x 2ft sheet is placed in position and a further sheet is placed alongside. Two aluminium channel clamps are then fixed over the joint by a connecting link through the panel, which incidentally is withdrawn later and liquid plaster is poured in at the top. This forms a homogeneous joint and when the supporting strips are withdrawn the plaster face is rubbed down and made good. It is usual practice to erect a whole wall of panels before the joint filling is commenced.

These plaster partitions have a perfectly smooth surface, far superior to that of ordinary plaster, and have good sound and thermal insulation values.

The use of these plaster units also means that when the material is delivered to the site it has already dried out

and consequently the internal permanent painting can be carried out immediately, it not being necessary to wait for drying.

Plumbing

The plumbing is designed on the one-pipe system, without anti-syphonage, similar to the plumbing unit which was used at Kidbrooke in 1946, and which has recently been published in B.R.S. Digests 48 and 49. It consists of a prefabricated steel soil pipe with all the branch pipes connected thereto, which is delivered and placed in position for connecting to the various sanitary appliances. It has been found more economical to use one soil pipe for each pair of houses, which would make a very obvious saving, but this was impracticable on only five houses.

With these factory-made, prefabricated, all-purpose soil pipes the site labour of the plumbers is reduced to a minimum of approximately twelve man-hours.

[Continued on page 380]

9" x 9" flue with built-in fire-clay linings
T.D.A standard roof truss type B

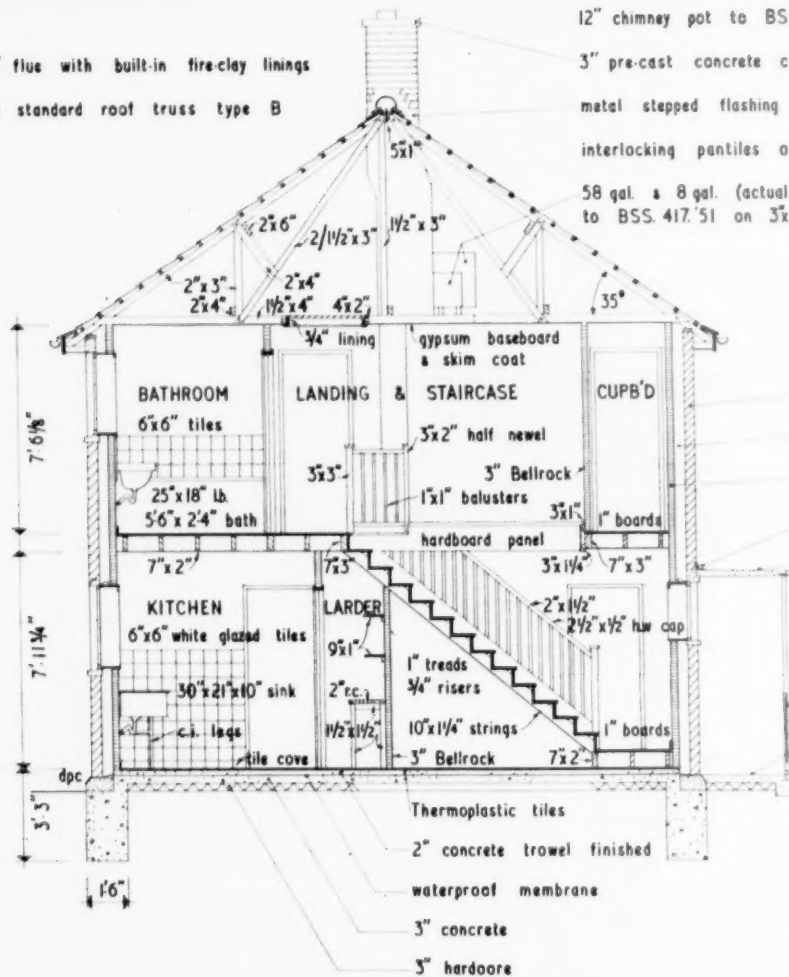
12" chimney pot to BSS.1181. 1944

3" pre-cast concrete capping

metal stepped flashing

interlocking pantiles on 1 1/2" x 3/4" battens on felt

58 gal. & 8 gal. (actual) galv. ms cisterns
to BSS. 417.51 on 3 1/2" bearers



4 1/2" facing brick

4 1/2" cavity

3" Bellrock

bitumen felt flashing

bitumen paint finish

r.c. canopy

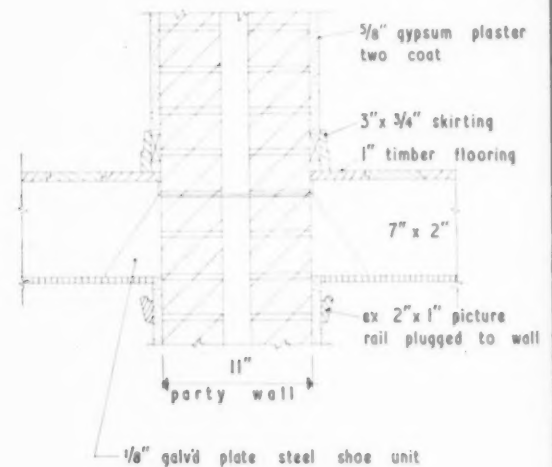
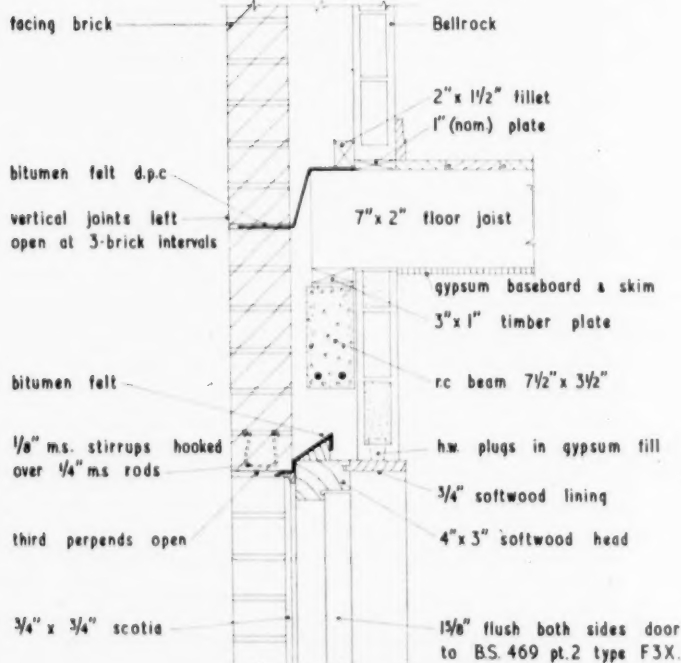
2" d. tube steel column

welded steel railing

weathered conc. slab

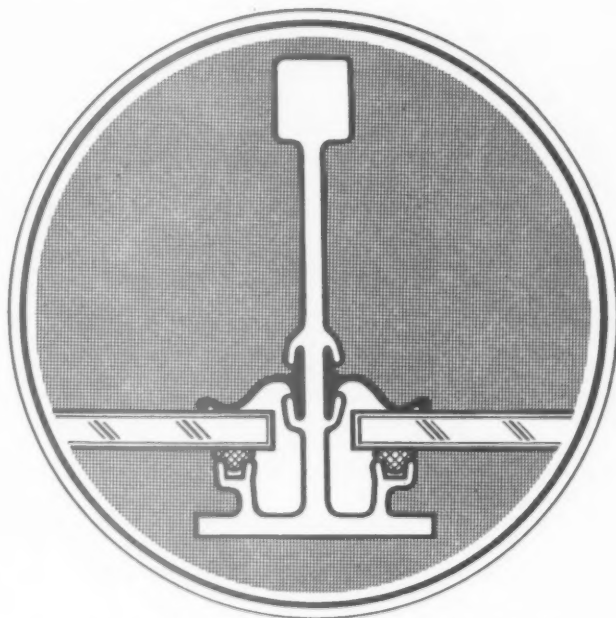
SECTION, SCALE: 1" = 6 FT.
SEMI DETACHED TYPE

PROTOTYPE HOUSES



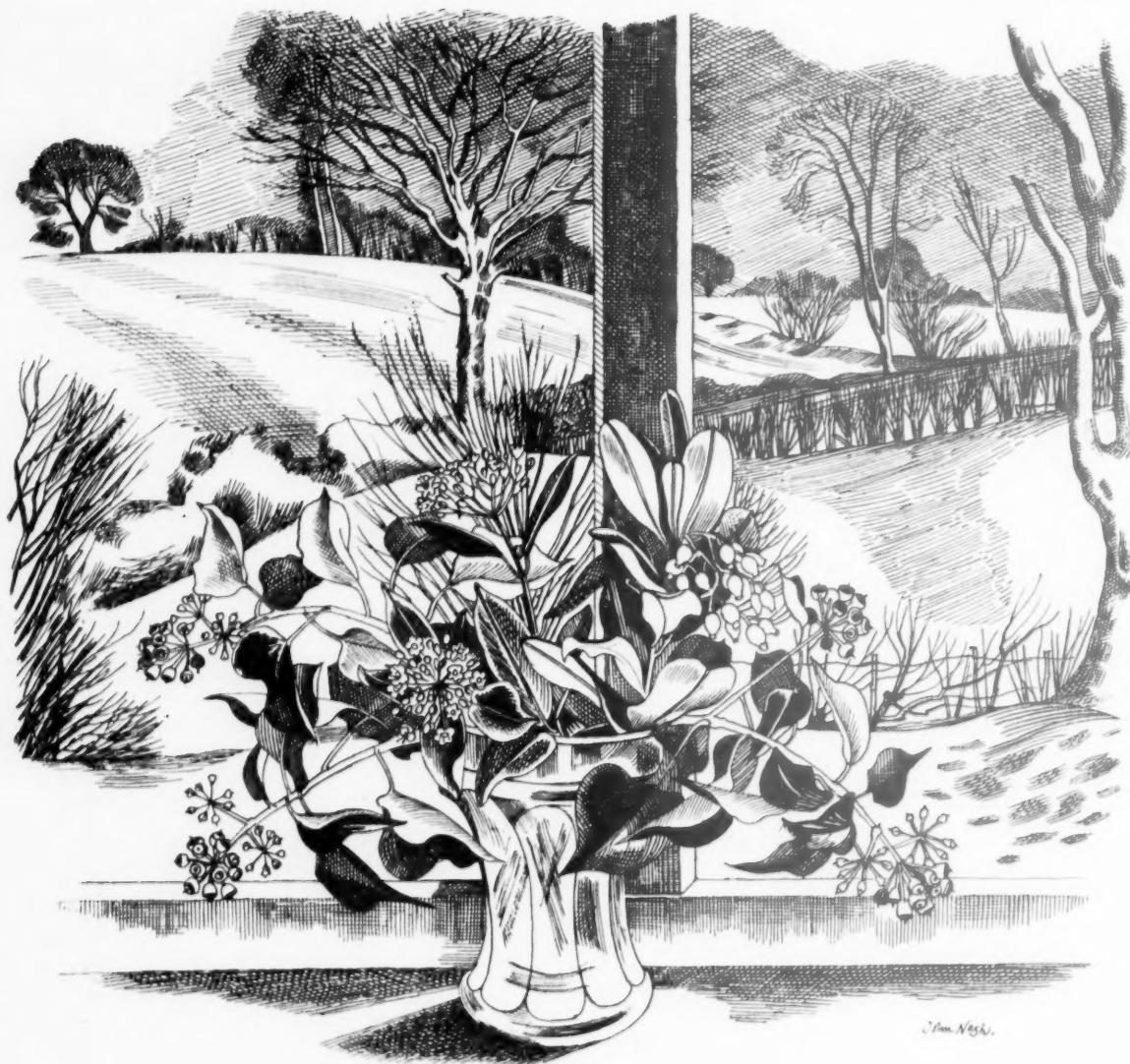
FIRST FLOOR AND PARTY
WALL DETAILS. SCALE: 1" = 1 FT.
The R.C. beam over doorway
is supported by 9" x 9" piers
(Continued overleaf.)

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The Farmhouse Window

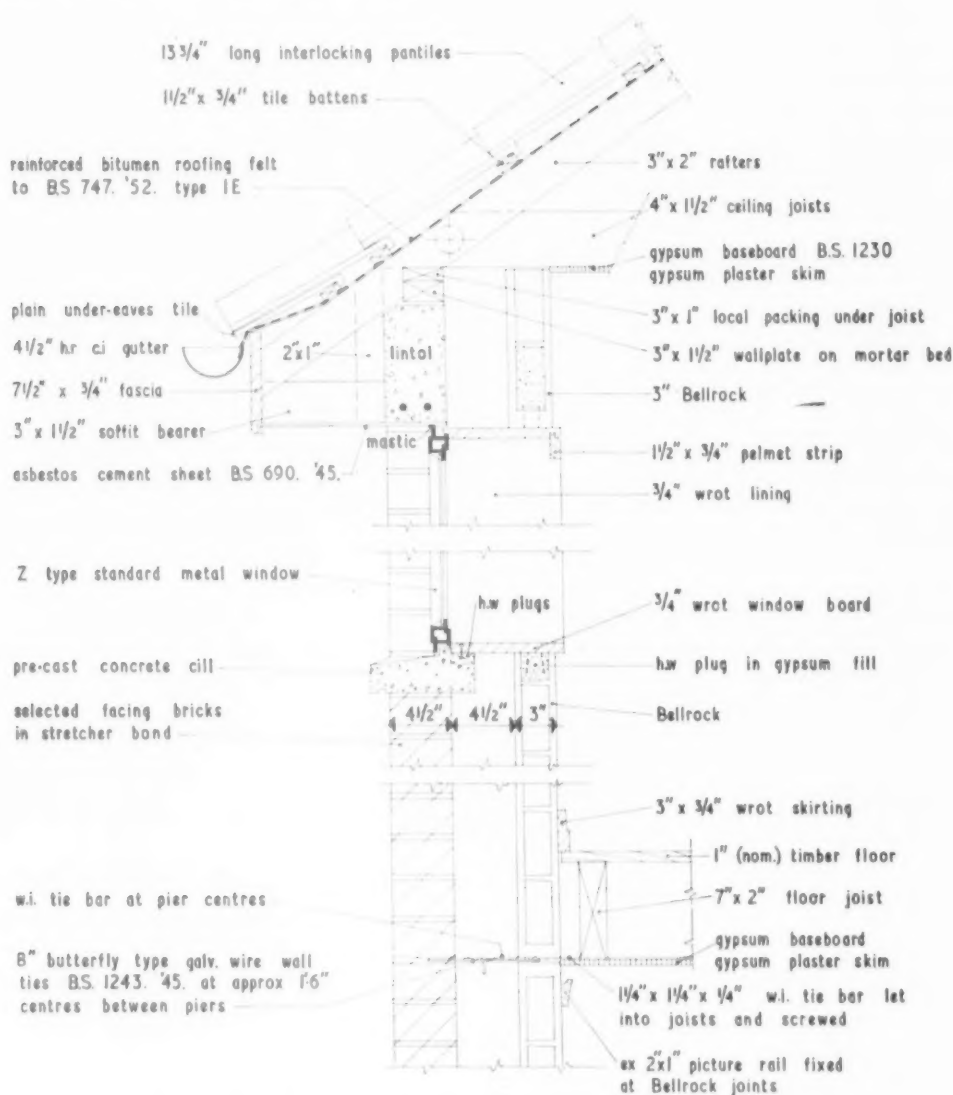
BY JOHN NASH R.A.

A farmhouse, like any other house will be more comfortable with Crittall Windows; the modern farmer also uses Crittall Windows of suitable types in his cowhouses, piggeries, and other permanent buildings.

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THE CRITTALL MANUFACTURING COMPANY LIMITED

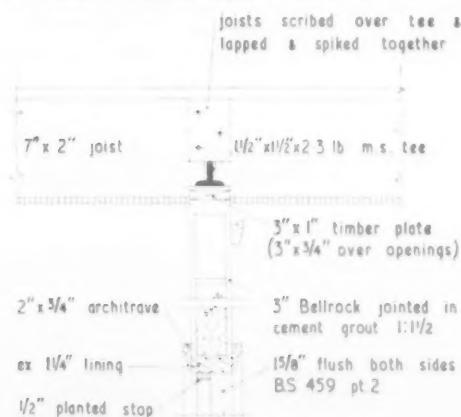
BRAINTREE, ESSEX, TEL: BRAINTREE 106, AND 210 HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.1, TEL: HOLBORN 6612



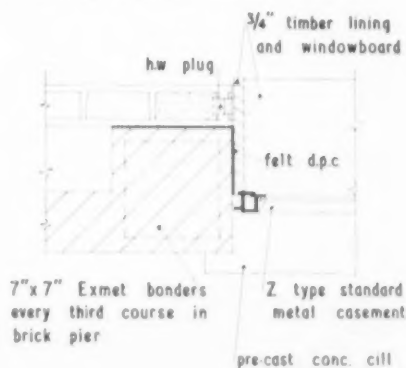
DETAIL OF FRONT OR BACK WALL, SEMI-DETACHED TYPE. SCALE: 1" = 1 FT.

PROTOTYPE HOUSES

INTERNAL LOAD-BEARING PARTITION. SCALE: 1" = 1 FT.



WINDOW JAMB. SCALE: 1" = 1 FT.



Gravesend Westcourt County Primary (Infants) School. Architects: Pite, Son & Fairweather, in collaboration with S. H. Loweth, F.S.A., F.R.I.B.A., M.I. Struct. E., County Architect. General Contractors: F. Parham, Ltd., Gillingham, Kent. Roofing Contractors: Permanite Ltd.

THE ARCHITECT and Building News, March 26, 1957



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Information Digest

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS

● **British Standard Codes of Practice and British Standard Specifications.** Issued by British Standards Institute, 24/28, Victoria Street, S.W.1. Abbey 3333.

British Standard Code of Practice C.P.12 (1952). The Structural use of timber in buildings. Price 10/6 post free.

The Code deals with the design, fabrication and erection of structural timber work. It is based on the principles of engineering design and on data established by research. It gives recommendations for the quality of materials, the moisture content of timber for various purposes and the permissible stresses appropriate to particular conditions of loading and service applicable to timber when used either in simple solid members or as parts of built-up structures incorporating other materials. Design data for the use of nails, screws, bolts, connectors and adhesives are also included. Recommendations are given for a method of test for components or assemblies of unconventional design which may not be readily amenable to detailed analysis. Sub-Code 112.100, which is incorporated in the main Code, deals with the preservation of timber by means of wood preservatives against fungal and insect attack, but not with protection against fire or mechanical damage, nor with the methods of minimizing the decay hazard of untreated timber by means of seasoning, ventilation and painting. It gives recommendations for the structural use of preserved timber in buildings and the circumstances in which the use of preservative treatments is desirable. Guidance is given in the choice of preservative, the preparation of timber for treatment, the methods of treatment and the conditioning of timber after treatment. A table is given relating types of preservatives and methods of application to the various uses of timber.

British Standard 1567, 1953. Wood Door Frames and Linings. Price 4/-.

This Standard was first published in June, 1949, and has now been revised. It covers internal and external door frames and linings; diagrams show the selection of timber sections from which they are made.

British Standard 1142, 1953. Fibre Building Boards. Price 4/-.

This standard supersedes the first edition published in 1943 as a war emergency standard. It is pointed out in the foreword that organic building materials are prone to decay if they are used in damp and unventilated situations without adequate protective treatment. The British Standard method of test is now under consideration which will provide a means of assessing the relative resistance to fungal decay of organic building materials judging the efficiency of protective treatments applied to them. The standard lays down composition, sizes and strength of fibre boards, and gives tests in relation to water absorption, etc.

● **National Building Studies.** Issued by H.M.S.O., York House, Kingsway, W.C.2.

Special Report No. 20. Survey of Building in Sandstone in Scotland. Price 1/6.

National Building Studies Special Report No. 20 described the results of a survey made during 1949-50 at the request of the Scottish Council to discover the comparative costs of building in Scottish stone and in alternative materials and to suggest economies in the winning, working and building of the stone. During the course of the survey information on the cost of quarrying of Scottish stone was obtained from quarrymasters, from the examination of cost records and from detailed study of the main stoneworking operations. Information was also obtained from the manufacturers of stone-working machinery and Scottish methods were compared with those used in other countries. The cost of brickwork and masonry for a typical house constructed in rubble, coursers, ashlar and brickwork were estimated, the prices being discussed with surveyors, builders and others concerned with stone building. Similar comparative costs were

obtained for other types of building, civic buildings and shop fronts. The information was considered together with statistical data on man power, production and the probable demand for Scottish stone. It was found that for every type of building the cost of building in stone was high. It is unlikely that it can be reduced to the point where it could compete with brick and concrete construction costs although changes in the technique of stone dressing and building could bring about savings. The reduction of costs would necessitate the concentration of the quarrying industry and the increasing of the output from those quarries remaining in production.

Special Report No. 19. The Assessment of Vibration Intensity. Price 1/-.

The report correlates the results of earlier investigations with some obtained by the B.R.S., and suggests a scale of vibration intensity based on actual measurements. Human beings have different opinions on what makes a nuisance. Some people can tolerate a vibration which would be irritating to others. This has been a problem ever since people living near Hyde Park complained that the new Central London Railway was shaking their houses. Since then, many research workers have tried to decide a "nuisance value" without much success. The Laboratory reviews existing scales of vibration intensity, including earthquake scales, and concluded that one scale obtained from experiments with human beings was applicable to normal industrial vibrations. Generally, structural vibrations would have to go over the "painful" level on this scale before there is any possibility of damage to the structure. Almost certainly anyone in a building would have to leave it because vibrations as great as this would be unbearable.

Research Papers Nos. 15 and 17. Reactions between aggregates and cement. Price 1/- and 3/-.

These two papers follow the previous publication of the same title. No. 2 discusses British Portland Cements with particular reference to their alkali content and considers rock types from the point of view of possible reactivity. Paper No. 3 described the application of expansion bar test to cements of medium alkali content. The paper describes the application of the test on some British aggregates. The rock types tested include basalts, dolerites, granites, quartzites, mountain limestone, Portland stone, sandstone, and blast-furnace slags. The sands examined included a ferruginous sand, quartz sands and a flint sand. The results of the research show that none of the aggregates examined shows expansive reactivity when used as a whole aggregate with a medium alkali cement. Nevertheless, the possibility of the presence of opaline silica must be borne in mind, particularly when sedimentary deposits are concerned. The paper suggests, therefore, that before any large new deposits are used tests for expansive reactivity should be made.

● **Building Research Station Digests No. 50 and 51.** Issued by Building Research Station, Garston, Watford, Herts. Price 3d.

Digest No. 50 deals with Emulsion paints and describes their nature and properties, together with types of emulsion paints available in this country. Advice is given in relation to the preparation of surfaces and the use of emulsion paints together with notes on redecoration, stripping and where to use these materials for satisfactory results.

Digest No. 51 resumes the pre-war series of notes dealing with specific enquiries received from the building industry in the form of questions and answers. This issue covers such items as renovation of buildings, frost failure of mortar and failure of plaster ceilings, etc.

● **Ministry of Works Advisory Leaflets Nos. 28, 29 and 30.** Price 3d. each.

Leaflet No. 28 deals with precautions to be taken when painting asbestos cement. It covers the problem of mois-

ture and alkalis, gives recommendations concerning the preparation of the surface, back painting, choosing the right paint for the job and the problem of repainting. Some useful points to remember are included which point out the inadvisability of walking on asbestos cement roofing sheets and other precautionary matters in relation to asbestos cement treatment.

Leaflet No. 29 is entitled *Care in the Use of Timber*, and gives advice on handling, selecting and cutting, and storage, with simple diagrams and useful notes on such things as dry rot and painting.

Leaflet No. 30 covers the *Installation of Solid Fuel Appliances*, being the first of a series, the one in question dealing with open fires. The leaflet describes the various types of open fires in common use and gives general hints on necessary plumbing work where a back boiler is used and the installation of various types of open fires described. All of these leaflets are written in simple language for the man on the job and are intended to promote better craftsmanship and to enable the small builder to keep in touch with the latest developments of building practice and the results of research.

- **Building Research Congress 1951.** Record of Discussion published by the Building Research Congress.

This publication includes a general report of the Building Research Congress which was held in London in 1951, and to which some 1,000 members came from nearly 60 countries. Of these, engineers were by far the largest number with architects and scientists equal in strength around 250 members. The publication of this complete record of the discussions of all the sessions includes both the opening remarks of the chairman and authors of papers, together with the general discussion from the members of the Congress.

- **Index Bibliographicus. Volume 2.** Published by U.N.E.S.C.O. Obtainable from H.M. Stationery Office, York House, Kingsway, W.C.2. Price 9/6.

This is a record of periodical bibliographies and abstracts covering the social sciences, education, humanistic studies, etc. It covers all countries of the world and will undoubtedly be a most useful guide to librarians and research workers. The text is in English and French.

- **A Guide to Birmingham.** Published by the City of Birmingham Information Department, The Council House, Birmingham. Central 7000. Price 1/6.

In view of the anticipated influx of visitors to Great Britain during the Coronation year, the publication of guides to our principal cities is to be welcomed. This 32-page booklet, which is very fully illustrated, deals with the history, industries and social life in Birmingham with a section of general information. In addition, a general diagrammatic map of the district is included with a detailed street plan of the city centre. The publication is well presented and it should be of considerable use to overseas visitors.

OFFICIAL AND TRADE ASSOCIATION PUBLICATIONS

- **The British Journal of Industrial Safety.** Published by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents, 52, Grosvenor Gardens, London, S.W.1. Sloane 2246. Price unstated.

Among a number of articles of general interest to architects in relation to industrial safety the Winter, 1952, issue of this journal includes an article by T. P. O'Sullivan and R. Bolsover on *Examining Building Structures for Safety*. The article gives a number of very useful hints in relation to the points to be observed in examining building structures, and should be of considerable use to architects whose work includes this type of activity.

- **The Use of Welding in Steel Building Structures.** Published by B.C.S.A., Artillery House, Westminster, S.W.1. Abbey 2424. Free.

Brochure No. 6 in the B.C.S.A. series is designed to give guidance on the design of welded steel building structures under nominally static loading conditions, made in mild steel and high tensile steels and designed as simple frames. The information provided appears to be very complete and

is supplemented by a number of well-presented drawings. The publication will no doubt be of considerable use to structural engineers.

- **The Journal of the Institution of Heating and Ventilating Engineers.** Published by the Institute of Heating and Ventilating Engineers, 75 Eaton Place, London, S.W.1. Sloane 3158.

Apart from the usual Institute matters the February, 1953, issue of this journal contains two papers on district heating schemes. The first on Whitehall Gardens and the Whitehall District-Heating Scheme and the second on the White-moss, East Kilbride District-Heating Scheme. The papers both deal with the problems of district heating in great detail, in relation to the layout of the buildings, the cost, and economies of district heating. The papers are illustrated by means of photographs and diagrams giving a very complete picture of the problems involved.

- **Higher Industrial Production with Electricity.** Published by the B.E.D.A., 2 Savoy Hill, W.C.2. Temple Bar 9434. Price 8/6.

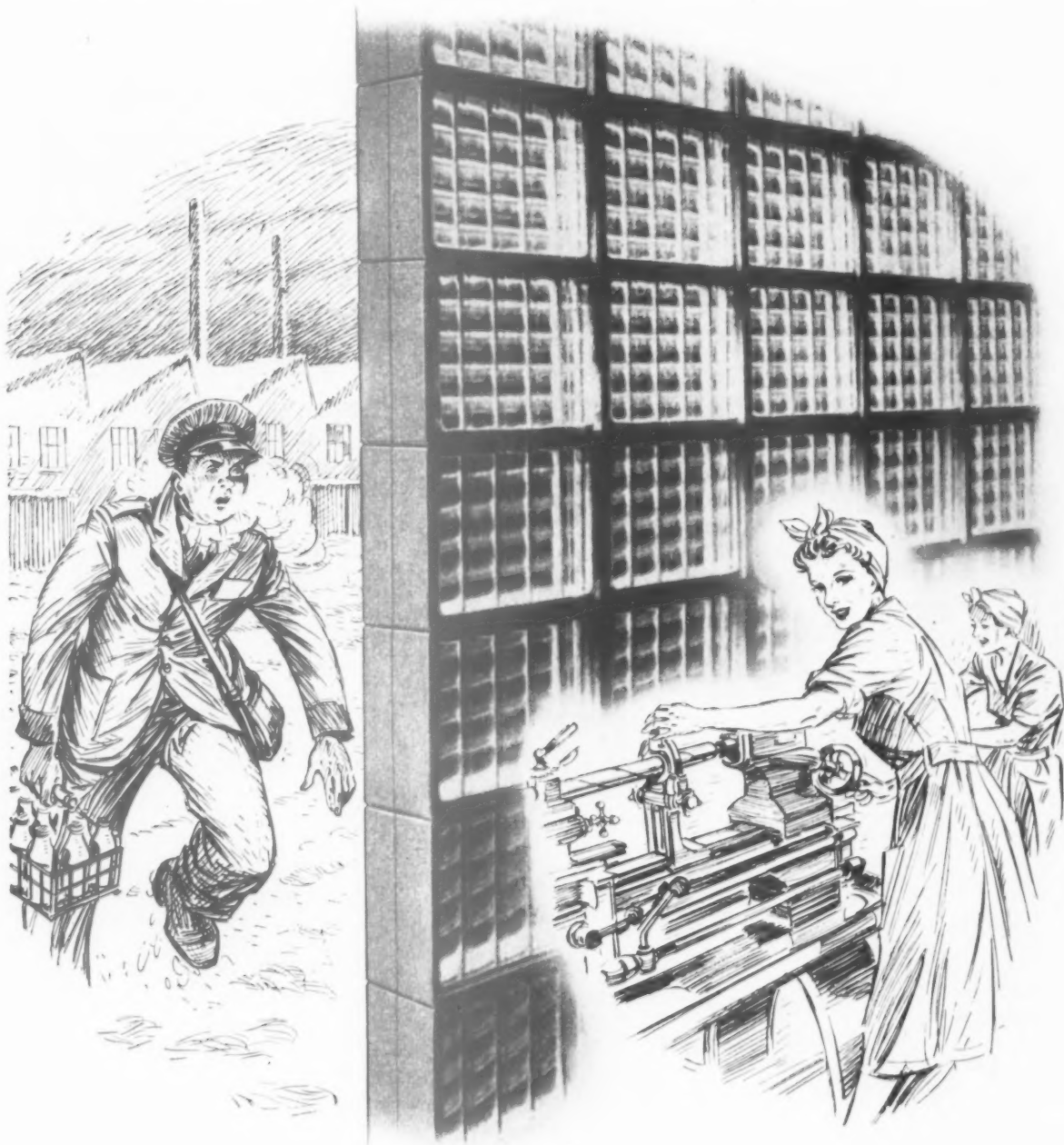
The preface of this book points out that it is only by using more and better machines that industries paying high wages can meet competition from foreign countries with lower wage levels. Higher production can be achieved by working harder or longer, or by working more effectively, which is what increased productivity means. It is in helping to increase output per man-hour that electricity can play a big part by increasing the effectiveness of the worker. This does not necessarily involve a great increase in the amount of electricity used, but rather the more widespread and intelligent application of electrical methods, some of which use relatively little power. A greater awareness of how electricity has contributed to greater productivity in some factories should assist in bringing about improvements elsewhere. Hence, this series of books describes what has been done already and explains the principles involved and how they are applied. The introductory volume contains 104 illustrations specially selected as being representative of the latest industrial practice. There are nine chapters, entitled respectively: *Industrial Power and Productivity, Factory Layouts and Electric Installations, Lighting for Production, Electric Motors and Control Gear, Materials Handling, Electric Furnaces and Heat Treatment in the Production Line, Welding, Electrical Testing and Inspection and Electricity and Productivity Service*. The whole subject of higher industrial productivity is an extremely wide one, but this book concentrates on the more striking examples of electrical methods, and should be of particular interest to industrialists as providing a review of the many ways in which modern applications of electricity have increased productivity.

- **Trees for our Towns.** By W. Barbara Acworth. Published by the Metropolitan Public Gardens Association, Denison House, 296 Vauxhall Bridge Road, S.W.1. Victoria 5037. Price 3d.

Architects normally show trees on their drawings as a series of circular shapes and seldom give sufficient study to the most suitable type of tree for planting in different areas and positions. This little booklet written by an architect is therefore warmly welcomed as, apart from a brief introductory note on the planting and care of trees and tree preservation, it gives a very comprehensive list of trees suitable for roadside planting, open spaces, etc. Each tree is classified with a description of its appearance and information concerning the situation in which it can be expected to thrive.

- **The Heating of Panels by Flue Pipes.** Issued by the Fire Protection Association, 94 Queen Street, E.C.4. Central 4642. Free.

This technical booklet No. 13 is an abbreviated version of a report bearing the same title issued by the Joint Fire Research Organization of the Department of Scientific Industrial Research and the Fire Offices' Committee, and deals with investigations undertaken in relation to the problem of fires being caused by combustible materials being placed near flue pipes. The object of the investigation was to determine the temperatures attained by these materials so that an assessment of the fire hazard could be made.



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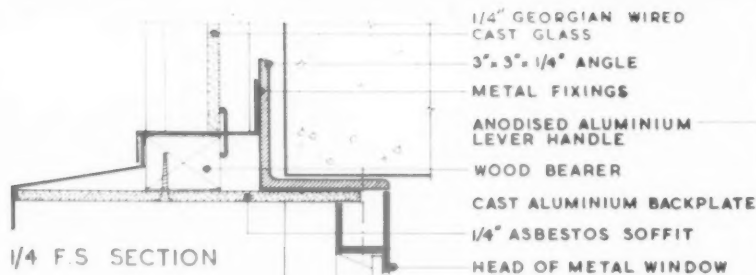
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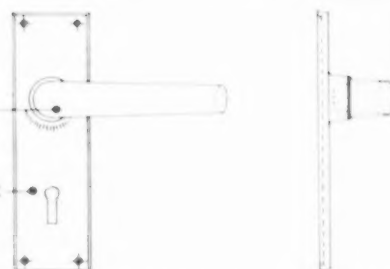
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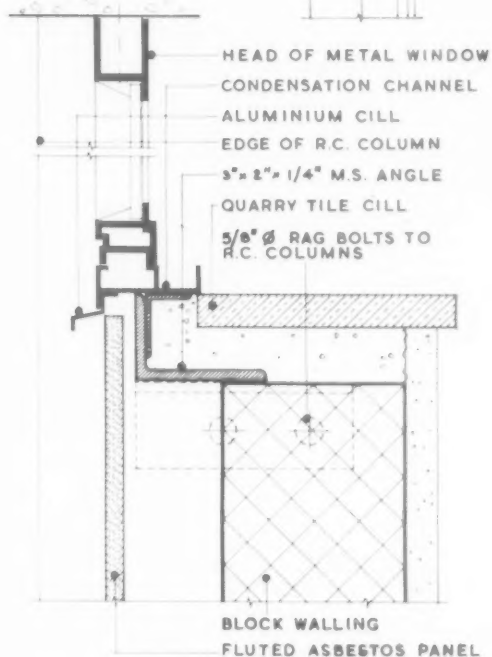
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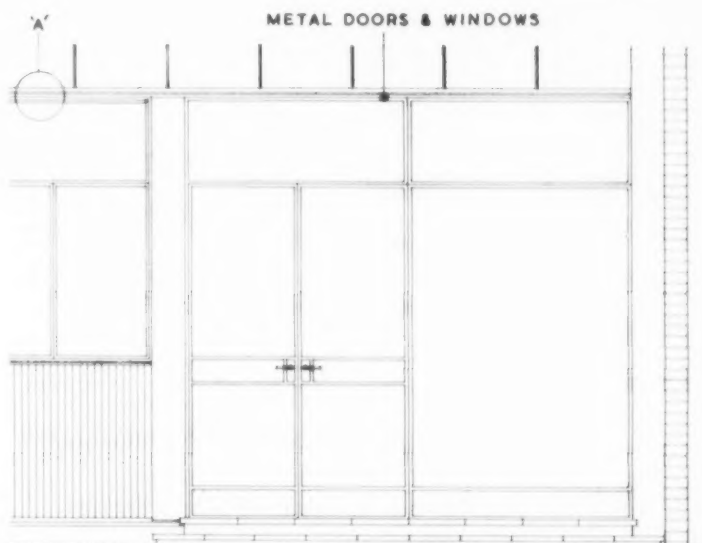
1/4 F.S. SECTION



1/4 F.S. DETAIL OF ANODISED ALUMINIUM DOOR HANDLES

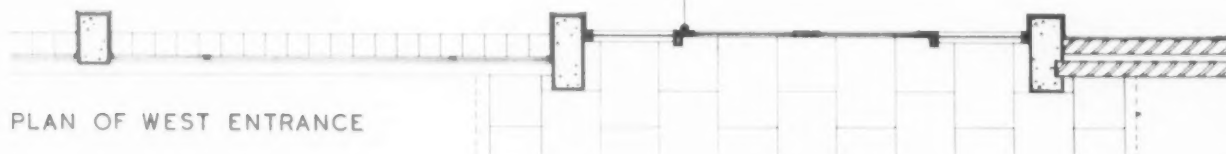


1/4 F.S. SECTION AT 'B'

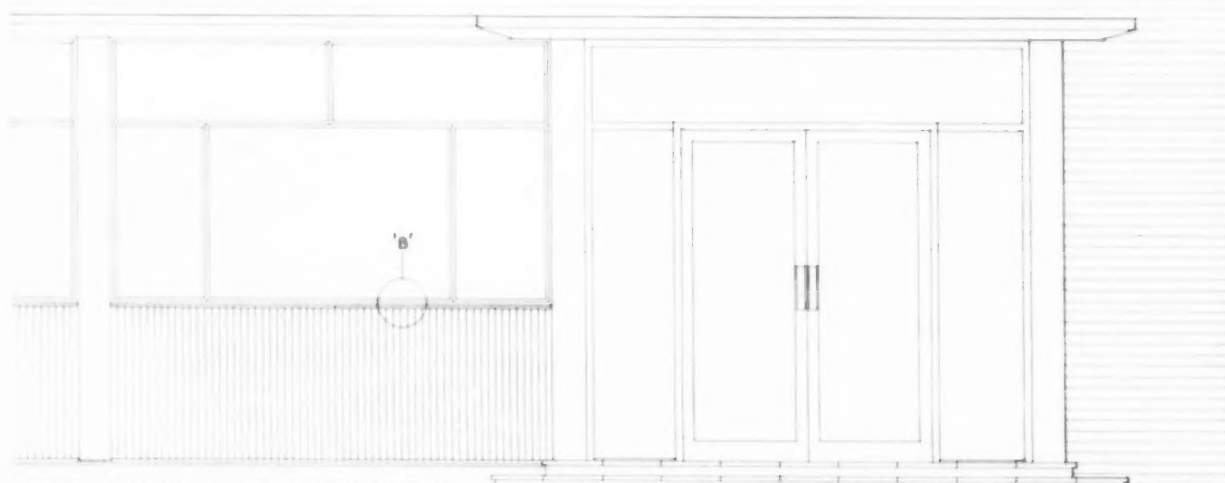


ELEVATION OF ENTRANCE ON EAST SIDE OF BLOCK

HARDWOOD FRAME AND DOORS



PLAN OF WEST ENTRANCE



ELEVATION OF ENTRANCE ON WEST SIDE OF BLOCK

SCALE 1" = 4' 0"



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The Hampden Secondary Modern School at Oxhey, Herts., contains, as this picture of the dining-hall shows, much interesting modern design and decoration. Note how the clean lines of the room are set off by the pattern in the flooring. The use of Accotile has been a feature of internal design throughout the school.

ARCHITECT:

C. H. Aslin, Esq., C.B.E., F.R.I.B.A.
(County Architect Hertfordshire C.C.)

Architect in Charge:

W. A. Henderson, Esq., A.R.I.B.A.



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TRADE PUBLICATIONS

- **G.E.C. Handbook.** Published by The General Electric Co. Ltd., Magnet House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2. Free.

Nearly 60 years ago G.E.C. issued this first bound catalogue. This was followed at regular intervals by further editions, the last being in 1935. The new edition has now been published and renamed the G.E.C. Handbook, covering the very extensive range of electrical installation material manufactured by this company. The volume runs to 800 pages, and contains complete details of the various electrical components, materials and fittings made by G.E.C., together with a current price list. The publication has been very thoroughly prepared and provides a very valuable reference in relation to electrical supplies.

- **Vitrolite Specifications.** Issued by Pilkington Bros. Ltd., St. Helens, Lancs. Free.

This Pilkington publication contains fixing recommendations for Vitrolite and 15 suggestions for its use covering bathrooms, kitchens and business premises. Each suggestion is illustrated by a coloured perspective with detail drawings and specification. The idea of this publication is good but, with very few exceptions, the illustrations are crude and vulgar. Most of the designs in the shop section are the flashy 1930 shop fitters' variety, and it is only in some of the shop interiors that the value of good design has been appreciated. Manufacturers producing publications of this sort would be well advised to employ contemporary architects to design their schemes for them and so avoid the unpleasantness of the perfumer's shop on page 5 and the jeweller's shop on page 7.

- **Design Manual for Timber Connector Construction.** Issued by MacAndrews & Forbes Ltd., 2 Caxton Street, S.W.1. Abbey 4451. Free.

The use of timber connectors is now firmly established and their advantages are well known. They have in fact become an essential part of modern timber design. This manual prepared by T. R. Walters collects together the latest information on the subject for the use of designers. The publication deals with the connectors marketed by MacAndrews & Forbes, Ltd., who are pioneers in this field, and gives a very complete picture of their use and advantages. The publication is illustrated with diagrams, photographs and charts.

- **Information Sheets.** Issued by the Allied Ironfounders Ltd., 28 Brook Street, W.1. Free.

The Allied Ironfounders' Information Sheet Book has been specially prepared for the use of architects and others and contains a complete series of information sheets dealing with the products of the Allied Ironfounders. Each sheet is of a standard size and gives full details of dimensions and other technical information, together with a photograph of the appliance concerned. The sheets are contained in a useful loose-leaf cover and the publication is extremely well thought out and in fact can be regarded as a model of its kind. It is unfortunate that other manufacturers do not follow this example in providing the information the architect needs concerning their products in a form capable of easy reference and providing in a compact space all the essential material required.

- **Paddle Wheel Type Fans.** Issued by Keith Blackman Ltd., Mill Mead Road, London, N.17. Tottenham 4522. Free.

This catalogue, No. 23, gives full details of Keith Blackman's "Tornado" Fans suitable for industrial purposes. The publication gives full dimensions, details, capacity tables and photographs of the units, together with illustrations of typical installations.

- **Presweld Construction for Schools.** Issued by Hills (West Bromwich) Ltd., 125 High Holborn, W.C.1. Holborn 8005. Free.

This Hills publication is a reprint from the June issue

of "Architectural Review" with the Hertfordshire Schools designed on the 8ft 3in grid and constructed with the Hills system. The system is so well known to the profession that it needs little further mention, but this publication will be widely sought by architects as an attractive record of the excellent school buildings designed by the Hertfordshire County Architect. The reprint includes a review of the Hertfordshire achievements and recalls earlier work of a similar nature carried out by Gropius and the Architects' Department of the L.M.S. Structural details of the system are added to the Review reprint, together with progress photographs of a typical job.

- **Partitions by Unit Construction.** Issued by Rowe Bros., 10 Dover Street, W.1. Regent 5761. Free.

Metal partitioning, constructed on the principle of standard units which can be quickly and easily erected, dismantled and re-erected to any given plan is featured in the latest catalogue issued by Rowe Bros. & Co., Ltd., builders' merchants. Rowe partitioning may claim to be the complete solution to the problem of efficient space allocation. As an installation, the partitions are complete in themselves, requiring no other supporting structural work. They can readily be dismantled and re-erected to alternative positions if required. The catalogue shows various types of partitioning in use in offices, canteens, laboratories and hospitals, together with details of fittings and accessories such as locks, plate glass and roller shutter hatches, floor-springs for holding doors open, and the methods of installing electric switches and power plugs without disfigurement of the partition. The manufacturers undertake to survey, advise and carry out complete installations, including glazing, a specially trained staff being maintained for this purpose.

- **Fan Performance Tests.** Issued by Fan Makers' Association. Price 9.6 (post free 10.-)

This document, which we have recently received, is the third in a series of publications issued by the Fan Makers' Association. It comprises definitions, methods of measurement and computations, instructions for carrying out performance tests and six test methods for fans. In appearance it is an imitation of a British Standard and draws heavily on the publications of that Institution, but it obviously cannot have the authority of a British Standard as it is apparently prepared without consultation with the wide range of interests which B.S.I. always brings together in the preparation of its publications.

The opening sentence of the introduction states that the Fan Engineering Industry has felt for some years that the British Standard Code for testing fans for general purposes is out of date. While it is probable that B.S. 848, which was issued in 1939, and for which this document is intended as a substitute, is out of date, surely the correct procedure, in the national interest, for bringing British Standards up to date is not for organizations to issue their own documents but to prepare draft revisions and submit them to B.S.I. It is understood that the reason given for the publication of this Code by F.M.A. is that B.S.I. is said to be overloaded and could not undertake the work; this certainly seems to be most unlikely since the Institution has produced many new and revised British Standards during the period in which the Fan Makers have been preparing this Code. From enquiries it seems that, in fact, the B.S.I. Committee agreed to delay its revisions while the Industry prepared its views for consideration by the Committees.

The issue of Standards and Codes by sectional interests of Industry is not only to be deprecated but is highly undesirable, since there is too great a risk that various organizations will prepare and issue documents, and by so doing achieve differences of view. As a national body for the purpose of bringing together all interests and for issuing documents acceptable to both makers and users exists proper use of that body should be made. It is time that all organizations whose functions include consideration of standardization should appreciate that B.S.I. works for the purpose of issuing nationally agreed documents which are recognized both in this country and overseas.

- **"The Gypsum Manual."** Issued by The British Plaster Board Company Limited, Morris House, 1-5 Jermyn Street, S.W.1. Whitehall 9821. Free.

This publication consists of a series of specifications dealing with the use of Gypsum plaster and other products of the British Plaster Board Co. The information is arranged in a useful quick reference manner and the specifications have been made as concise and to the point as possible. This is a useful publication and has been presented in a serviceable manner.

- **The Origin and Development of Aveling-Barford Ltd.** Issued by Aveling-Barford Ltd., Grantham.

This publication is a record of the development of this firm who are well known for their road rollers. The book shows the development in the design of these machines from 1867 to the present day and gives a number of interesting photographs of early machines together with views of the Company's factories showing their work in progress. The Company not only make road rollers but a wide variety of earth-moving equipment, agricultural machinery, etc.

- **Heat Insulation of Factory Plant and Buildings.** Issued by Fibreglass Ltd., Ravenhead, St. Helens, Lancs. St. Helens 4224. Free.

The problem of insulating buildings is still an important one and this publication describes the use of Fibreglass in this connection. It covers fibreglass rigid sections for pipe lagging, fibreglass flexible section for similar work, fibreglass strip for very large pipes, and other materials made by the Company for the insulation of machinery and building structures. A considerable amount of technical data are included with diagrams, photographs and useful tables.

- **Filing Systems and Cabinets.** Issued by Roneo Ltd., 17 Southampton Row, W.C.1. Holborn 7622. Free.

A recent complaint in the *Architect & Building News* by "Dutch Uncle," concerning the difficulty of filing advertising literature of differing sizes, has prompted Roneo, Ltd., to forward their catalogue of the Roneo visible-80 filing system, which they claim is adaptable to any type or size of material. The brochure gives a very complete description of the system which appears to be very thoroughly worked out. It also includes details of filing equipment for drawings. It would appear that such a system as this would be very satisfactory for the filing of catalogue material but one feels that the cost of the installation would make it prohibitive for the average architect. On the other hand, it would appear to be extremely useful for commercial firms who find it difficult to organize their records.

- **The Lighting Review No. 6, 1951-1952, and No. 1, 1952-1953.** Issued by Philip Electrical Ltd., Century House, Shaftesbury Avenue, W.C.2.

These excellent magazines on lighting published by Philips and printed in Holland are always worth careful study. The two issues concerned include a wide variety of interesting articles on such subjects as shop lighting, mine lighting, church lighting and theatre lighting. This latter subject is dealt with in an article on the general reorganization of stage lighting at the Shakespearian Memorial Theatre. The remarkable photographs of Stratford Stage productions make this publication worth keeping.

- **1850-1950. 100 Years of Progress.** Issued by James Austin & Sons Ltd., Thornhill Iron & Steel Works, Dewsbury, England.

This book is the record of 100 years of progress by James Austin & Son, and gives the history and development of the Company. As with most publications of this sort the photographs and drawings illustrating the early years are extremely interesting and the publication is a well-produced and interesting record of a century of structural engineering work.

- **"Alpaste."** Issued by the Northern Aluminium Co. Ltd., Banbury, Oxfordshire. Banbury 2242. Free.

The Northern Aluminium Co. published their first book on Noral Paste some 15 years ago when the aluminium paste pigment was less well known. Since that time a great deal has been learned about the behaviour of aluminium paints under all conditions of exposure and there have been considerable advances in its manufacture. This new book,

which replaces the original publication, contains a great deal of new material and deals with the manufacture, properties and method of application of "Alpaste" to a variety of surfaces. A special study is made of printing with aluminium inks and this is dealt with in some detail with a number of actual examples of printing in colour as part of the text.

- **Timber Progress.** Edited by W. E. Bruce. Published by Cleaver-Hume Press Ltd., 42a South Audley Street, W.1. Price 15/-.

This book deals with timber progress and includes a number of articles relating to timber and its use over a wide field. The book is also designed as a desk book for 1953 and therefore includes a bibliography of wood, a number of tables on the imports of soft and hard wood, and a list of timber trade and similar organizations. The back section of the book comprises a number of blank pages for notes.

ALSO RECEIVED

- **Lighting Fittings.** Issued by The Benjamin Electric Ltd., Brantwood Road, Tottenham, London, N.17. Tottenham 5252. Free.
- **National Building Studies Research Paper No. 16. Tests on Road Bridges.** Published by H.M.S.O., York House, Kingsway, W.C.2. Price 3/- nett.
- **Philips Industrial Catalogue.** Issued by Philips Electrical Ltd., Press Department, Century House, Shaftesbury Avenue, London, W.C.2. Gerrard 7777. Free.
- **Dust Control Units.** Issued by Dallow Lambert & Co. Ltd., Spalding Street, Leicester. London Office: 20 Fitzroy Square, W.1. Euston 5796-7. Free.
- **Welded Fabrications.** Issued by Robert Jenkins & Co. Ltd., Rotherham. London Office: 149-151 Abbey House, Victoria, S.W.1. Free.
- **New Towns Act, 1946. Reports of the Development Corporations for the period ending 31st March, 1952.** Published by H.M.S.O., York House, Kingsway, W.C.2. Price 15/-.
- **Transactions of the Ecclesiological Society 1951.** Issued by The Ecclesiological Society, Walcot House, 139 Kennington Road, Lambeth, S.E.11. Reliance 4391. Price 7/6 to non-members.
- **Youth Employment Service Annual Report, 1951-52.** Issued by the London County Council, Press Bureau Room 9, South Block, County Hall, S.E.1. Waterloo 5000, Extension 7700, 7667, 7668. Free.
- **Scale of Charges for Consulting Structural Engineers.** Issued by the Institution of Structural Engineers, 11 Upper Belgrave Street, London, S.W.1. Price 1/3.
- **Bygglitteratur Building Abstract Service, November, December, 1952.** Issued by Bygglitteratur Hagelbygard Tumba, Sweden.
- **Record of the 1952 Annual Convention of the British Wood Preserving Association.** Issued by the British Wood Preserving Association, 6 Southampton Place, London, W.C.1. Price 8/6.
- **Lighting Problems and their Solutions.** Issued by the General Electric Co. Ltd., Magnet House, Kingsway, W.C.2. Free.
- **"Bestos" A.V.C. Cables.** Issued by British Insulated Callenders Cables Ltd., 21 Bloomsbury Street, W.C.1. Free.

Continued from page 374]

Department were seconded to the County Architect's Department to carry out the stone work.

The approximate cost of the buildings, including roads, fencing and furnishing is £50,000.

Aluminium Buildings: The Bristol Aeroplane Co. (Weston) Ltd.

Aluminium Windows: Gardiner, Sons & Co. Ltd. **Asphalt Roof and Plastic Floor Tiles:** Penmaenmawr & Trinidad Lake Asphalt Co. Ltd. **Carpets:** Festiniog Carpets Ltd. **Central Heating:** Saunders & Taylor Ltd. **Electric Lighting and Power Installation:** Jones Bros. **Bala. Fire resisting Floors and Roof:** Tarmac Ltd. **Furnishing of Council Chamber and Internal Woodwork of centre portion:** George M. Hammer & Co. Ltd. **Lock and Door Furniture:** Lockerbie & Wilkinson (Birmingham) Ltd. **Reconstructed Stone Dressings:** Empire Stone Co. Ltd. **Rubber Floors:** Semtex Ltd. **Sanitary Fittings:** Rowe Bros. & Co. Ltd. **Terrazzo Floors:** Terrazate, Portmadoc. **Telephone System:** Post Office Telephones. **Wood Block Floors:** R. W. Brooke & Co. Ltd.

what is

"I heard about Carlite from another architect in Scotland so I thought I'd find out how this pre-mixed plaster worked."

"And how does it work?"

"It works so well that I wouldn't think of specifying anything else"

"What are the points from the architect's angle?"

"To an architect Carlite means no more headaches on plastering specifications being met. Carlite has the advantage of an exfoliated vermiculite aggregate. It's made up to a rigidly controlled formula at the factory. You know exactly what you'll get on the site."

"That's more than you can say for ordinary plasters. Sounds like good news for us contractors too."

"There's still more good news coming. Although Carlite weighs two and a half times less than sand plasters, it's quite exceptionally strong."

"It would take a lot of dead load trouble off my people doing the job too. How does Carlite work out in use?"

"First class — it's got a very high resistance to cracking, double the heat insulation, and it's very fire proof."

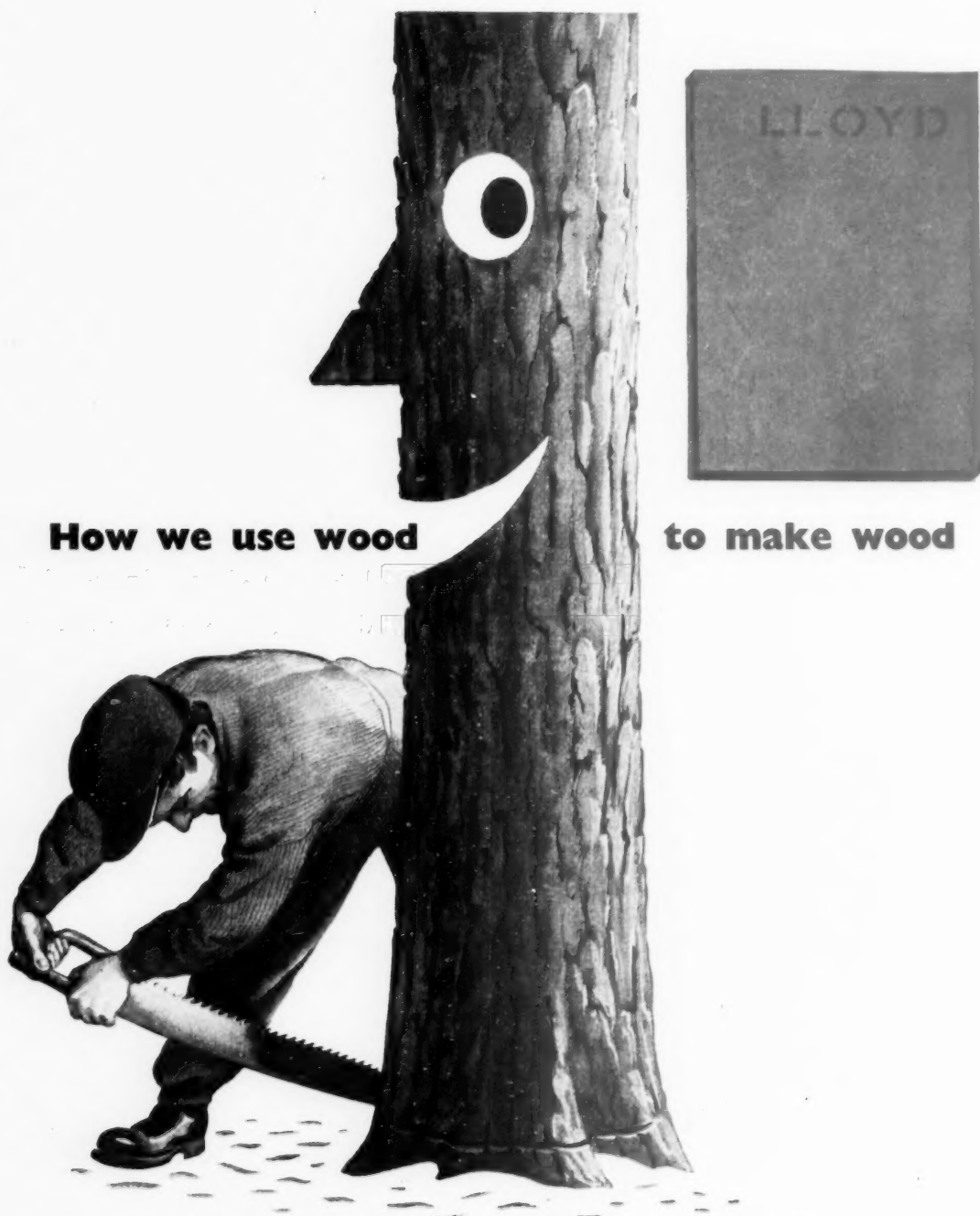
"Looks like the plaster of the future."

"That's the best reason for starting in with it now."

Carlite?



For full details of Carlite write to:
The Carlisle Plaster & Cement Co., Cocklakes, Carlisle
The Gotham Company Ltd., Wheeler Gate, Nottingham



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to make wood

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BOWATERS BUILDING BOARDS LIMITED

Bowater House, Stratton Street, London, W.1. Tel.: GRO 4161

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Advertising

IN Mr. E. S. Turner's book, "The Shocking History of Advertising," it quotes a saying that "Trying to do business without advertising is like winking in the dark." In spite of statements such as this, which we all know to be true, as a profession we architects take few steps to bring ourselves and our services before the public who, if they were made more aware of our existence, might put more employment in our way to the general betterment of the community.

Except for those of our profession in public and official employment, to whose incomes we other architects forcibly contribute, most of our members have a precarious existence, unlike many other professions. The public does not seem to appreciate the necessity of employing architects, whereas few of them would contemplate the sale of property or an appearance in the Courts without a lawyer, nor would they heed the income tax man without the support of an accountant. It would seem, therefore, that to live we should advertise much more widely what we can do to assist the public.

Such advertising as is placed before the public on behalf of architects are occasional descriptions of the more important buildings when they are opened by Royalty and the like, although even on such occasions the architect seldom figures with any prominence. Such descriptions, however, tend to scare away the clients with less money to spend as they are inclined to associate architects only with important buildings. The only places where the architect for small buildings seems to figure at all are in those papers specially devoted to the design and furnishing of houses; even in these papers the client's whims and fancies are frequently given greater prominence than the skill of the architect who translates those whims into actual building and rescues the client from the many pitfalls into which he might otherwise expensively fall.

Many questions on this subject of publicity for architecture pass through my mind. I do not know the profession's reasons for and against advertising, although I have ideas as to what they should be. However, I would at least like to place some of these questions before my readers. What has the architect to offer, and how and to whom should he offer it? Has the time come when, in the interests of the employment of architects, members of the profession should be allowed to call attention to their skill? Is this fear of permitting advertising due to the fact that the leaders of the profession have either sufficient work or they do not like the idea of lesser members of their trade butting into the field?

The R.I.B.A. stage a number of exhibitions, including travelling exhibitions, which in their way are very ex-

cellent. Frequently, however, they do little towards the encouragement of the British public to employ British architects. Such exhibitions, when devoted to showing what British architects can accomplish, may do some good in advertising the skill of the architect, but I doubt very much that they ring the sort of bell that is really needed, because these exhibitions are more likely to attract the already knowledgeable members of the public, but fail to influence those who most need assistance.

What happens when a would-be

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC EMPLOY AN ARCHITECT

If you are thinking of building a house, a factory or in fact any kind of building, you will need the services of an architect. In fact without such services you may encounter difficulties, extra expense and disappointment in the result, without any compensatory saving. How do you go about getting the architect for your building? How much will his fees be and what will he do for them? All the buildings you see around you that are well built and well designed were designed by architects. The expense of employing one for yourself will be only a small fraction of the cost of the building and most of your problems will be taken off your shoulders. It is worth considering. All these questions will be answered by the Royal Institute of British Architects, 66, Portland Place, W.1.

(Advt.)

client wants to employ an architect and does not know one? Does he write to the R.I.B.A. for names? If he does, what is the result? Is he merely given a list of names drawn from the membership of the Council and the Committees, the names of all those who specialize in some particular type of buildings, or the names of all the R.I.B.A. members in the enquirer's district, whether skilled or semi-skilled, good designers or bad, in fairness to its many subscribers, or does the R.I.B.A. recommend those architects who are efficient from a client's angle, which may not of course be those who turn out the best architecture? Is the client enquirer told what are the advantages of employing an architect and what the architect could do for the client? Is it made clear that he is not just "the bloke that puts the pretties on," as this is still a widely held opinion, and that to employ an architect means that buildings cost more.

Might there be general advertising by, say, the R.I.B.A. on behalf of all

its members. If the reply is yes, should all architects in private practice, and this should include officials who practice in their spare (?) time, pay an advertising levy? Would, say, £10 p.a. per architect spent centrally on publicity for the profession pay adequate dividends? Certainly any publicity of this nature would need long continuity to be effective and successful.

I have not mentioned advertising by individual architects, but is it not a fact that many members on the register and of the R.I.B.A. already in fact arrange publicity for the buildings which they have designed by getting pictures of their work published in monthly and weekly papers of both the general and the trade press? I wonder, in fact, what the real difference is between seeking the friendship of the editor of a paper in some particular field in which an architect is interested in order to have his buildings illustrated therein, or an architect, for example, preparing a booklet of illustrations of his work, to be distributed to prospective purchasers of land by agents with sites for sale. It may be that to relax on the present restriction on advertising to permit individual architects to call attention to the buildings they have built, would be better than a communal scheme in so much that those who spend money might more reasonably expect a return on their contribution.

I wonder sometimes whether we suffer too much from attempting to be a neo-learned society and whether we should not abandon such high thoughts in favour of belonging to an efficient trade organization whose function would be the promotion of the abilities of its members to serve properly the nation. The postbags of every paper, even those remotely connected with building, receives a regular series of letters enquiring where to find an architect or, even worse, saying "I have built a house and the builder has robbed me." There should be no need for such letters if the profession told its public what it could do for them. Privately sponsored building seems to be coming back in greater quantity, so is it not the time to take some action to encourage our own employment, or should we allow our functions to continue to travel towards a merging with those of the builder and contractor?

The profession knows it can be of benefit to the community and to individuals. Is it not right and proper, therefore, that it should inform the public of this fact by one of the means already suggested? In the first place I feel that there would be advantage to both the public and to the architects if advertising space could be purchased for notices such as the one on this page; other organizations such as the British Fruit Trades Federation, who launched the "Eat More Fruit" campaign, have found the money well spent, so why not a similar campaign for architects?

DUTCH UNCLE

MOSAICS

SERVICES HEATING B3.33

The bowl of water placed in front of many gas fires is many a non-technically minded user's method of avoiding stuffiness alleged to be caused by gas appliances.

The real problem with gas appliances is the contamination of room air by the products of combustion: the solution is satisfactory extraction of that air.

The gas radiator shown here—the Sapphire "20" manufactured by Cowper Penfold & Company Ltd., Imperial Court, 6, Basil Street, Knightsbridge, S.W.3—solves the problem with an incorporated balanced flue.

For wall fixing it is a neat appliance which is recommended for shops, offices, halls, etc. The heater is 26in wide x 31in high x 7in deep and weighs 61 lb. Gas consumption is 20 cu ft or 10,000 B.Th.U. Hr.

The finish is stove enamel, bronze. The heater is fitted with a permanent pilot which is ignited by unscrewing the base porthole cover and applying a match.



SERVICES HEATING B3.34

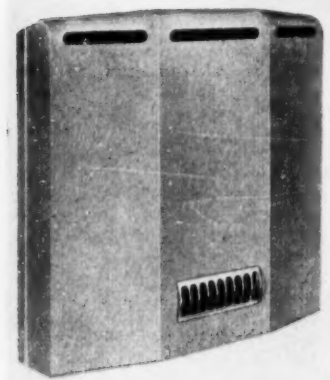
The Sapphire "10," shown here is companion model to the "20" illustrated in B3.33. It is a smaller heater designed for domestic heating. Gas consumption is 5,000 B.Th.U. Hr.

As with the "20" model the specially designed balanced flue is suitable for walls 16in thick or less. The body and outer case are of sheet aluminum stove enamelled gold.

The dimensions of this smaller model are 25in high x 22in wide x 5 1/2in deep (projection from wall). The weight including flue duct is 22 1/2 lb.

With both heaters the room air is heated by contact with the body of the heater, as it passes through the space between the heater body and the cover. The warmed air is discharged into the room through the slots at the top of the outer cover.

Both models are fitted with variable pressure throttle and a pressure testing point.

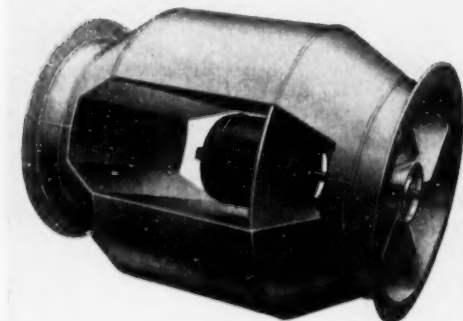


SERVICES VENTILATION B2.8

Keith Blackman Ltd., Mill Mead Road, Tottenham, London, N.17, have recently added this bifurcated fan unit to their "Tornado" range. Sizes 10in to 16in.

This fan has been designed to meet the many needs of different types of mechanical dust or fume extraction. The special feature of the design is that the fan casing is split across a diameter and opened out to provide a separate chamber for housing the driving motor, thus completely isolating the motor from the dust or fumes.

Moreover as the motor housing is open to atmosphere the motor may work in a reasonably low ambient temperature with quite high temperatures in the surrounding ducts.



SERVICES LIGHTING B1.67

This is the Holophane Flameproof Industrial lighting unit which is certified for use with Groups II and III inflammable gases. The maximum lamp watts is 200. The light distribution is asymmetric 25 degrees from the vertical.

The unit is designed for pendant suspension but can also be fitted with a metal ring for recessed ceiling mounting.

The fitting will be shown at Earls Court, Electrical Engineers Exhibition from March 25-28 on stand No. 30.

Full particulars from Messrs. Holophane Ltd., Elverton St., Westminster, S.W.1. Telephone Victoria 8062.



INDUSTRIAL NOTES

● We understand that Messrs. Kingfisher, Ltd., of West Bromwich, have arranged a special exhibition in their London show-rooms at 139, Knightsbridge, S.W.1, to March 27, of the latest designs of classroom, school dining room and staff room furniture.

These include several pieces of equipment specially designed by Local Education Authorities for their own use, in addition to a number of interesting ideas produced by the firm's own design staff, and which are now in current production. These include several types of grouping and interlocking dual-purpose tables for both dining and general use, and some of which have tops covered with heat-proof plastic material.

There are also some new ideas for the equipment of technical colleges, including a lecture room desk/chair, incorporating a large writing surface and accommodation for books in one unit and a new type of dual-purpose typing desk with disappearing machine bed.

The exhibition is augmented by a display of photographs illustrating the furniture in use in a number of new schools throughout the country, and will be open from Monday-Friday, 9.30 a.m.-5.0 p.m.

● The Minister of Materials has made the Imported Plywood Prices (Revocation) Order, 1953, which removes the remaining controls from plywood prices with effect from March 9, 1953. Maximum prices had previously been provided by the Imported Plywood Prices Order, 1951, for plywood imported by Timber Control from Russia, Finland and North America, and similar types privately imported from Sweden and Norway. No plywood is now purchased on Government account.

The Order is published as Statutory Instrument, 1953, No. 318, and may be obtained from H.M. Stationery Office, or through any bookseller, price 2d.

● Fifteen years ago the Lead Industries Development Council, realizing that readily available technical information on materials is a necessity in modern building, established an information bureau.

Up to 1940 the Lead Industries Development Council had already made a wide distribution of information sheets and booklets. Since 1945 a new set of information sheets, a handbook for plumbers, and various booklets on special subjects have been made available, and these are proving a much appreciated up-to-date reference to good practice in the use of lead sheet and pipe. Copies of these publications are freely available to architects, surveyors, builders, plumbers and other building technicians on application to the Council at Eagle House, Jermyn Street, London, S.W.1.

Particular problems in the use of lead sheet and pipe can be referred to the Lead Technical Information Bureau which will, if necessary, arrange for a technical representative to visit sites.

The Council takes a special interest in the education of student technicians and supplies schools with wall charts and other materials, arranges lectures and demonstrations, issues films on loan and provides funds for prizes open to national competition.

To further scientific research on lead and its alloys, the Council supports by annual subscription a programme being carried out by the British Non-Ferrous Metals Research Association.

Notes below give basic data of contracts open under locality and authority which are in bold type. References indicate: (a) type of work, (b) address for application. Where no town is stated in the

CONTRACT • NEWS •

OPEN

BUILDING

ALTRINCHAM B.C. (a) Paper baling and bin store, Wharf Road. (b) Borough Surveyor, Town Hall. (c) 2gns payable to Borough Treasurer. (e) April 2.

BATH C.C. (a) Caretaker's cottage, garage, block, etc., at rear of Students' Hostel, Somerset Place. (b) Hugh D. Roberts, 7, Brock Street. (c) 2gns payable to Corporation. (e) April 8.

BATHAVON R.C. (a) 102 houses, Red Post site, Peasedown, near Bath. (b) W. A. Williams, 5, Wood Street, Bath. (c) 2gns cheque payable to Council. (d) April 9.

BECKENHAM B.C. (a) Block of 10 flats, Beck Lane Estate. (b) Borough Engineer, Town Hall. (c) £2. (e) April 14.

BLACKBURN B.C. (a) First instalment of a technical college. (b) Messrs. Willink and Dod, Cunard Building, Liverpool. (c) 3gns. (d) March 31. (e) May 15.

***BIRMINGHAM C.C.** (a) Contract 283: 6 3-storey flats, Windsor Road, Stirchley; Contract 288: 4 2-storey dwellings, Shaftmoor Lane, Hall Green. (b) Engineer and Surveyor, Civic Centre, 1. (c) 2gns each contract. (d) March 30. See page 44.

BRADFORD C.C. (a) 60 pairs of houses, Thorpe Edge Estate, Idle; 5 pairs of houses, Haworth Road, Bradford. (b) City Engineer, Town Hall. (c) 2gns each scheme. (e) April 15.

BRIGHTON B.C. (a) Factory of approx. 28,000 sq ft, Hollingbury Light Industrial Estate. (b) D. J. Howe, 26-30, King's Road. (c) 3gns. (e) April 7.

CARLTON U.C. (a) 36 bungalows, site No. 29, Coronation Walk, Burton Road, Gedling. (b) Engineer and Surveyor, Council House, Burton Road. (c) 3gns. (e) April 13.

CRICKHOWELL R.C. (a) 10 houses and 10 houses, with site works, Waunlapria site, Llanelly Hill. (b) Messrs. J. Merton Jones and Son, St. Mary's Chambers, Abergavenny. (c) 3gns cheque payable to Council. (e) April 11.

DROITWICH B.C. (a) 35 houses at St. Peter's Crescent, 12 houses at Vines Lane, 8 houses at Friar Street and 3 shops, with flats above, Stalls Farm Estate. (b) Borough Engineer, Town Hall. (c) 2gns. (d) April 4.

EAST ASHFORD R.C. (a) 2 utility bungalows at Wye, near Ashford, with drainage and services. (b) Council's Surveyor, Council Offices, 8, Elwick Road, Ashford, Kent. (e) April 7.

EAST RIDING C.C. (a) 6 pairs of police houses, Bridlington. (b) County Architect, County Hall, Beverley. (c) £2. (e) April 8.

EAST RIDING C.C. (a) Institute of Agriculture and ancillary buildings, Bishop Burton, near Beverley. (b) County Architect, County Hall, Beverley. (c) £2. (e)

ESSEX C.C. (a) Ambulance station at Horse Show Ground, Lexden Road, Colchester. (Approx. cost £14,500.) (b) County Architect, County Hall, Chelmsford. (d) April 4.

address it is the same as the locality given in the heading, (c) deposit, (d) last date for application, (e) last date and time for submission of tenders. Full details of contracts marked ★ are given in the advertisement section.

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ESSEX C.C. (a) Alterations and additions to Manor House, Brentwood Road, Gidea Park, to form a hostel for aged persons. (b) County Architect, County Hall, Chelmsford. (d) March 28. (Approx. cost £6,670.)

ESTON U.C. (a) 22 aged persons' bungalows, Redcar Road East Estate, South Bank. (b) Engineer and Surveyor, Normanby Road, South Bank, Middlesbrough. (c) 2gns. (e) April 2.

GREAT YARMOUTH B.C. (a) Additional classrooms and workshop extensions at Technical College, Lichfield Road. (b) F. Jackson, Schools' Architect, 22, Euston Road. (c) 2gns. (e) April 7.

HALESOWEN B.C. (a) 34 dwellings, Howley Grange Estate, Lapal. (b) J. C. T. Cole, Central Buildings, Long Lane, Blackheath, near Birmingham; immediate. (c) 2gns.

HAMPSHIRE POLICE AUTHORITY. (a) (1) Police house with office at Chilworth, near Southampton; (2) police house with office at Ibsley, near Ringwood; (3) a pair of police houses at Havant Police Station. (b) County Architect, The Castle, Winchester. (c) 1gn. each contract, cheque payable to Treasurer of Hampshire Police Fund. (d) April 1.

HAVANT AND WATERLOO U.C. (a) One 2-storey block of 8 flats, Purbrook Housing Estate (Section I). (b) Engineer and Surveyor, Council Offices, 1, Park Road North, Havant. (c) 3gns. (e) April 14. See page 44.

KENDAL B.C. (a) 54 houses, Hall Garth Estate. (b) Borough Engineer, Municipal Offices, Lowther Street. (c) 2gns. (e) April 22.

LANCASHIRE C.C. (a) 2 pairs of police houses, Fleetwood Rifle Range Estate. (b) County Architect, County Hall, Preston. (d) March 30.

LEAMINGTON SPA B.C. (a) 3 blocks of 3-storey flats (36 dwellings), Lillington Estate. (b) Messrs. Rayner and Fedeski, 28, The Parade. (c) 2gns.

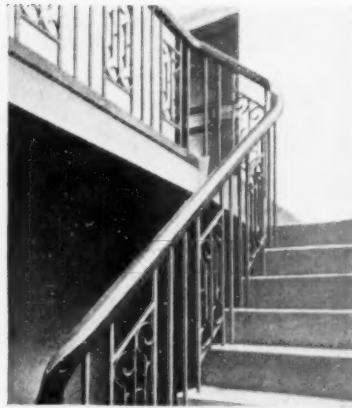
LEEDS C.C. (a) (Contract 526A) 24 single women's flats at Belle Isle Estate; (526B) 28 single women's flats at Seacroft Estate; (527) 8 aged person's flats, 12 houses and 20 houses, at Kentmere Avenue, Seacroft Estate; (528) 24 aged persons' flats at Boggart Hill, Seacroft Estate; (529) 6 houses at Brooklands Avenue, Seacroft Estate; (530) 10 houses at Beckett Park Estate, Area 1; and (531) 14 houses at Belle Isle Estate. (b) City Architect, Priestley House, Quarry Hill, 9. (c) £1 each contract. (e) April 13.

LONDON-PADDINGTON B.C. (a) 10 dwellings in two blocks, Portnall Road, W.9. (b) Town Clerk, Town Hall, W.2. (c) 2gns. (d) March 31.

MAIDSTONE B.C. (a) 18 houses at Marden; 22 at Yalding; 16 at Coxheath; 14 at Coxheath. (b) Engineer and Surveyor, Council Offices, 26, Tonbridge Road. (c) 2gns. (d) April 18. (e) May 23.

N. IRELAND-ANTRIM R.C. (a) Garage and store at Antrim. (b) Messrs. McCarthy and Lilburn, 47, Scottish Provident Buildings, Donegall Square West, Belfast. (c) 5gns. (e) April 8.

N. IRELAND-BALLYMENA R.C. (a) 96 houses with site works, Station Road, Cullybackey. (b) Messrs. Ogilby and M'Cutcheon, 5, Lombard Street, Belfast. (c) 5gns. (e) April 4.



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N. IRELAND-BELFAST C.C. (a) 51 flats, Kansas Avenue site. (b) Housing Architect, 94, Chichester Street. (c) £5. (e) April 8.

N. IRELAND-GOVERNMENT OF NORTHERN IRELAND. (a) 2 cottages at Garvagh Forestry Centre, Co. Londonderry. (b) Ministry of Finance (Room 103), Law Courts Building, Belfast. (c) £2. (e) April 2.

N. IRELAND-LONDONDERRY C.C. (a) Repairs and improvements to school meals kitchen at Rosstowney. (b) Messrs. Roe, Stevenson and Son, Castle Street, Londonderry. (c) £5 to City Accountant. (e) April 8.

N. IRELAND-PORTADOWN. (a) Church at Portadown, for Trustees of Edenderry Memorial Methodist Church. (b) Messrs. Roe, Stevenson and Sons, 53, College Gardens, Belfast. (c) 3gns. (e) April 9.

N. IRELAND-PORTADOWN. (a) Extensions to parochial hall at Carleton Street. (b) Andrew G. Crawford, 1, Lombard Street, Belfast. (c) 2gns. (e) April 2.

ORMSKIRK U.C. (a) 68 houses on Scott Estate, and 40 houses at Richmond Estate, Burscough. (b) Council's Surveyor, Council Offices, Burscough Street. (c) 2gns. (e) April 6.

PORTSMOUTH C.C. (a) Old people's homes at Wymering. (b) City Architect, Municipal Offices, 1, Western Parade, Southsea. (c) 3gns. (d) April 7.

PRESTON B.C. (a) (Contract No. 1) 8 flats in 2 blocks, (Contract No. 2) 8 flats in 1 block, (Contract No. 3) 16 flats in 2 blocks. (b) Borough Engineer, Municipal Building. (c) 2gns. (e) April 10.

RUGBY B.C. (a) Store-cattle sale ring at Rugby Cattle Market. (b) Borough Surveyor, Burford House, Church Walk. (c) 2gns. (e) April 13.

SALTBURN AND MARSKE U.D.C. (a) 12 houses, "The Parkway," Marske Road Housing Scheme, Saltburn. (b) W. R. Ellis, Engineer and Surveyor, Council Offices, Saltburn-by-the-Sea. (c) 2gns. (e) April 13. See page 44.

ST. ALBANS R.C. (a) 40 dwellings in pairs and blocks of 4 at Saxon Road, Wheathampstead. (b) Council's Architect, 43, Upper Lattimore Road. (c) 2gns. (e) April 10.


SOUTH SHIELDS B.C. (a) Public convenience on land at Green Lane West. (b) Borough Engineer, Town Hall. (c) 2gns. (e) April 6.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES B.C. (a) Junior school at Roseworth, Durham Road. (b) Borough Architect, 28, The Square. (c) 2gns. (e) April 7.

SURREY C.C. (a) Ambulance station on main Guildford road at Ottershaw. (b) County Architect, County Hall, Kingston-on-Thames. (d) March 28.

THURROCK U.C. (a) Block of 23 flats on a site at Chadwell St. Mary. (b) Council's Clerk, Council Offices, Whitehall Lane, Grays. (d) April 7.

WAYLAND R.C. (a) 12 dwellings, comprising 6 houses and 2 bungalows at Banham and 4 houses at Ovington, with drainage and site works. (b) Housing Officer, Council Offices, Attleborough. (c) 2gns. (e) April 10.



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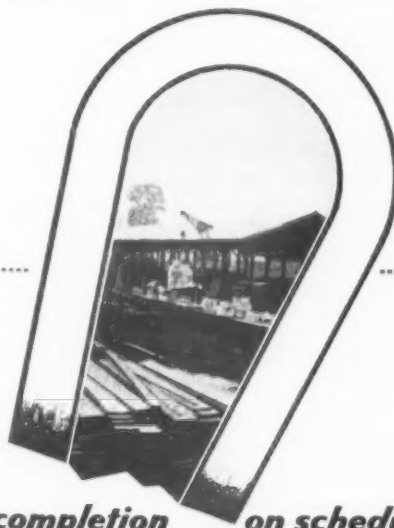
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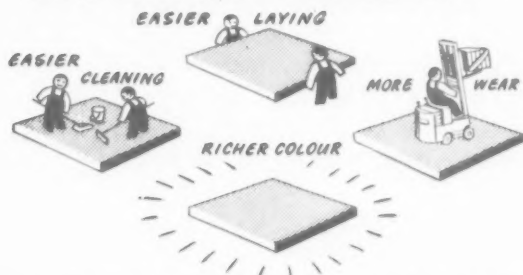
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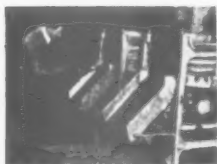
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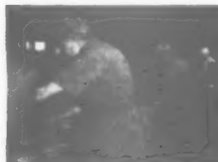
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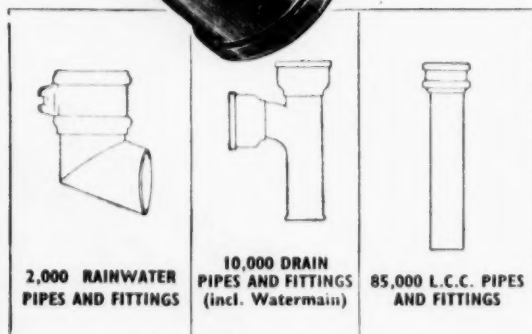
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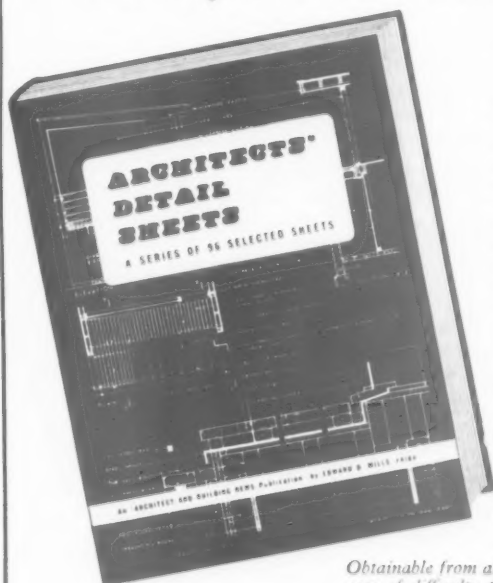
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OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS

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PRESS NOTICE
For the issue of "The Architect and Building News" dated April 9th, classified advertisements must reach us by 1ST POST, THURSDAY, APRIL 2nd.

APPOINTMENTS

The engagement of persons answering these advertisements must be made through the local office of the Ministry of Labour and National Service, etc., if the applicant is a man aged 18-64 or a woman aged 18-55 inclusive, unless he or she or the employer is exempted from the provisions of The Notification of Vacancies Order 1952.

CITY OF BIRMINGHAM PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

APPLICATIONS are invited for the appointment of ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT, Grade A.P.T. VIII (£760-£835 per annum) in the Architectural Department.

The Associateship of the R.I.B.A. or equivalent qualification must be held and applicants must have had considerable experience in an Architect's office. The post is permanent, superannuable, subject to a medical examination and to one month's notice on either side.

Housing accommodation cannot be provided. Applications, endorsed "Architectural Assistant - Grade A.P.T. VIII," stating age, qualifications and experience, together with the names of two persons to whom reference can be made, should reach the undersigned not later than 11th April, 1953.

Canvassing disqualifies.

A. G. SHEPPARD FIDLER, City Architect.

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SOMERSET COUNTY COUNCIL.

COUNTY ARCHITECT'S DEPARTMENT.

APPLICATIONS are invited for the following appointments:

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Applications, giving age, qualifications, past and present appointments, and the names and addresses of two technical referees, should be forwarded to reach me not later than Monday, 13th day of April, 1953.

The appointments are superannuable and subject to N.J.C. Conditions of Service. Canvassing disqualifies.

R. O. HARRIS, F.R.I.B.A., County Architect.

Park Street, Taunton. [7010]

CHERTSEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

APPLICATIONS are invited for the post of ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT (temporary) at a salary within Grades II to IV of the Administrative, Professional and Technical Division of the National Scales (£495-£600 per annum), according to qualifications and experience, to assist in the preparation of plans for the Council's Housing Programme.

The Council are unable to assist in the provision of housing accommodation.

Forms of application and conditions of service may be obtained from the undersigned. Closing date for submission of applications 11th April.

A. REX HERBERT, Clerk of the Council.

Council Offices, Chertsey. [7008]

ANNOUNCEMENTS • CONTRACTS • TENDERS

Close for press 1st post Monday for following Thursday Issue

APPOINTMENTS—contd.

BOROUGH OF OLDBURY.

APPOINTMENT OF ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT.

APPLICATIONS are invited for the above permanent appointment in the Borough Engineer and Surveyor's Department. Salary Grade A.P.T. III of the National Salary Scales—£525-£570 per annum.

Candidates should have good architectural training and be experienced in the design and construction of Council Houses and Flats, and hold the appropriate qualifications. The appointment will be subject to the National Conditions of Service. It will be superannuable and subject to medical examination.

Applications, stating age, qualifications and experience, together with copies of three recent testimonials and disclosing whether to the candidate's knowledge he is related to any member or senior officer of the Council, should be delivered to the undersigned not later than the 11th April, 1953.

Canvassing will disqualify.

KENNETH PEARCE, Town Clerk.

Municipal Buildings, Oldbury. [7009]

CITY OF BIRMINGHAM EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

APPOINTMENT OF STAFF TO ARCHITECT'S BRANCH.

APPLICATIONS are invited for the following appointment in the Architect's Branch of the Birmingham Education Department (Architect to the Committee: Mr. J. R. Sheridan-Shedden, A.R.I.B.A.):

(i) ASSISTANT ARCHITECT.

Salary: A.P.T.V. (£595-£645).

Applicants must be Registered or Chartered Architects and should possess a good knowledge of construction and design and of the preparation of working drawings for large building contracts.

(ii) TECHNICAL ASSISTANTS.

Salary: General Division (£160-£450, according to age).

Applicants should be good draughtsmen with some experience in the preparation of drawings in an architect's office.

(iii) CLERK OF WORKS.

Salary: Miscellaneous Grade VI (£525 × £15-£585).

Applicants should have a thorough technical training in building construction and materials and experience of large building contracts.

(iv) ASSISTANT CLERK OF WORKS (Temporary).

Salary: Miscellaneous Grade IV (£440-£495).

Applicants should have had a thorough technical training and experience in building construction materials.

Application forms, which may be obtained from the undersigned on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope, must be returned not later than three weeks after the appearance of this advertisement.

E. L. RUSSELL, Chief Education Officer, Education Office, Margaret Street, Birmingham, 3. [7001]

CONTRACTS—contd.

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SCHEME 18.

THE Council invite tenders for the ERECTION of 12 HOUSES.

Tender Forms, Preliminaries and Specifications, may be obtained from Mr. W. R. Ellis, M.I.Mun.E., Engineer & Surveyor, Council Offices, Saltburn-by-the-Sea, upon payment of £2 2s which deposit will be returned to the tenderer on receipt of a bona-fide tender.

Conditions of Contract and Drawings may be inspected at the Office of the Engineer & Surveyor.

Sealed tenders, enclosed in an envelope bearing no name or mark revealing the identity of the tenderer and endorsed "Scheme 18" must be received not later than 5 p.m. on Monday the 13th April, 1953.

The Council do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

L. E. HORGAN, Clerk of the Council.

Council Offices, Saltburn-by-the-Sea, March, 1953. [7003]

CITY OF BIRMINGHAM.

HOUSING CONTRACTS.

THE House Building Committee invite tenders for the erection of the under-mentioned dwellings:

CONTRACT 283—6 THREE-STORY FLATS—WINDSOR ROAD, STIRCHLEY.

CONTRACT 288—4 TWO-STORY DWELLINGS—SHAFTMOOR LANE, HALL GREEN.

Conditions of Contract (which include the usual Fair Wages and Conditions of Labour Clause), Bills of Materials and Form of Tender will be forwarded after payment of £2 2s for each contract at the office of Herbert J. Manzoni, City Engineer and Surveyor, Civic Centre, Birmingham, 1 (to whom all cheques should be made payable).

The deposit will be returned on receipt of a bona fide tender or on notification of inability to tender, together with the return of the documents not later than three days before the date for receipt of tenders.

Application for Quantities should be made by 30th March, 1953.

Tenders enclosed in the envelope provided for the purpose, must be sealed and delivered to the Town Clerk's Office (Room No. 23), Council House, Birmingham, 1, at a time and date which will be specified.

The Committee do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

J. F. GREGG, Town Clerk.

The Council House, Birmingham, 1. [7002]

CITY OF BIRMINGHAM.

TO BUILDING CONTRACTORS.

THE Council are about to consider the invitation of tenders from building contractors for the completion of the ERECTION OF THE ST. MARTIN'S TOLL MARKET AND UNDERGROUND CAR PARK in Edgbaston Street, Birmingham, the building of which was commenced in 1938 and suspended in 1940, when approximately two-thirds of the work had been completed.

A considerable amount of the work is to be carried out in reinforced concrete and only those contractors experienced in this method of construction should apply.

Copies of the Plans, Specifications and General Conditions of Contract may be inspected at the offices of the Architects, Messrs. Martin Martin and W. H. Ward, 106, Colmore Row, Birmingham, 3.

Contractors wishing to be considered should apply, enclosing a list of similar works recently carried out and the approximate value of such works, to the Town Clerk (Room No. 17), Council House, Birmingham, 1, not later than noon on Monday, 13th April, 1953.

Dated 20th March, 1953.

J. F. GREGG, Town Clerk.

Council House, Birmingham, 1. [7011]

CONTRACTS

THE HAVANT AND WATERLOO URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL invite Tenders for the ERECTION OF ONE TWO-STORY BLOCK OF EIGHT FLATS at Purbrook Housing Estate (Section 1).

Conditions of Contract and Drawings may be inspected and Bills of Materials and Form of Tender obtained from the Offices of the Engineer and Surveyor, Council Offices, 1, Park Road North, Havant, on payment of a deposit of £3 3s which will be returned on receipt of a bona-fide Tender and the return of all documents.

No Tender will be received except in a plain sealed envelope, which may bear the word "Tender" followed by the subject to which it relates, but shall not bear any name or mark indicating the tender.

Tenders must be delivered not later than 12 noon on Tuesday the 14th April, 1953, to the Clerk of the Council, Town Hall, Havant.

The Council do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender. [7066]

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The engagement of persons answering these advertisements must be made through the local office of the Ministry of Labour and National Service, etc., if the applicant is a man aged 18-64 or a woman aged 18-59 inclusive, unless he or she or the employer is exempted from the provisions of The Notification of Vacancies Order 1952.

ARCHITECTURAL Assistant. Intermediate standard. 3 to 4 years' office experience, required for detailing contemporary work in West End office; neat and quick draughtsman essential; salary according to ability.—Box 6223. [7007]

ASSISTANT required in the shop fitting department of Peter Lord, Ltd.; knowledge of building construction and interior decoration.—Apply in writing to: Maintenance & Survey Dept., 98, High St., Kensington, W.8. Please state experience and salary expected. [6988]

ARCHITECTURAL assistant required; must be qualified, have good experience in design and working drawings and be able and willing to accept responsibility. Salary about £600, but according to experience.—T. H. Thorpe & Partners, 23, St. James's St., Derby. [7000]

QUALIFIED R.I.B.A. and registered assistant architect required by British Railways for service in Architect's Office, Euston. Applicant must be competent to carry out work from the scheme to contract stage with minimum of supervision. Commencing salary £714/15. Certain residential and free travelling facilities given.—Apply, Civil Engineer, British Railways, London Midland Region, Euston Grove, London, N.W.1. [7002]

IMPERIAL Chemical Industries, Ltd., General Chemicals Division, require an Assistant Architect in their Chief Engineer's Department, Runcorn; applicants should have had good experience in design and the preparation of working drawings; other facts being equal, preference will be given to those who have passed the final examination of the R.I.B.A.; salary depending on age and experience.—Apply in writing to Staff Manager, Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd., General Chemicals Division, Cunard Building, Liverpool, 3. [6985]

ARCHITECTURAL APPOINTMENTS VACANT—contd.

OVERSEAS TECHNICAL SERVICE.

EMPLOYERS requiring Overseas Staff and Employees seeking posts abroad are invited to contact the Overseas Technical Service. Capable, hard-working staff are at present required as follows:—ASSISTANT ARCHITECT for rapidly expanding practice. NORTHERN RHODESIA. Preference applicant with a flair for design; limited office experience accepted. Salary between £620-£780 p.a., with substantial annual increments. Free passage on initial 3-year contract. Quote Box 56/2. ARCHITECTURAL DRAUGHTSMAN or DRAUGHTSWOMAN, for hull station in TANGANYIKA. Young, with some experience. Salary by arrangement, passage out paid. Quote Box 42/2. SENIOR ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT for leading office in NAIROBI. At least five years post qualifying experience. Free passage, salary and bonus, leave scheme. Quote Box 17/6.

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Write, giving brief personal and professional details and quoting appropriate Box No., OVERSEAS TECHNICAL SERVICE, 5, Welldon Crescent, Harrow. [7012]

EXPERIENCED architectural assistant required in private office in Guildford for working, detail and design drawings. Apply stating age, experience, salary required, date available.—Box 6200. [6999]

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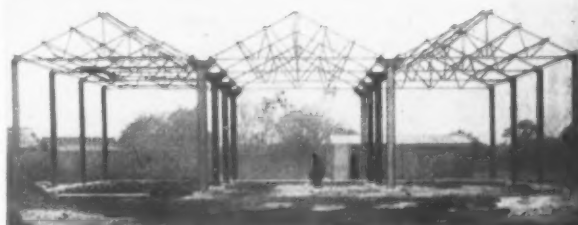
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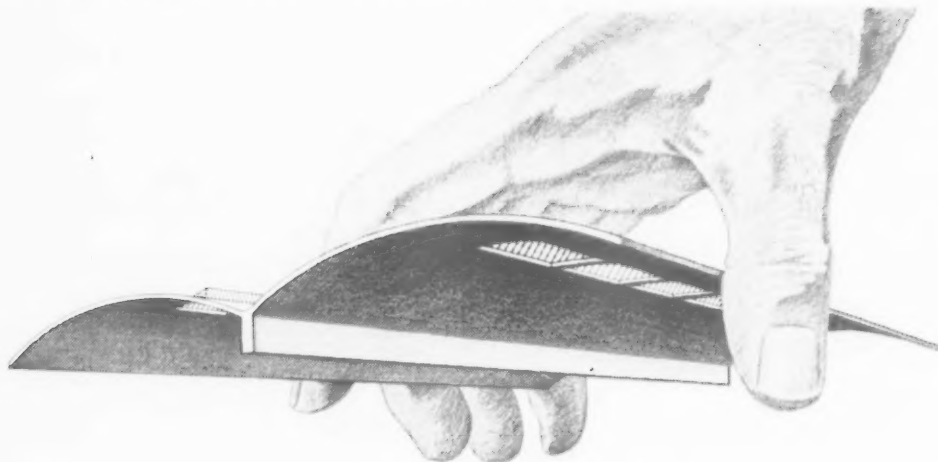
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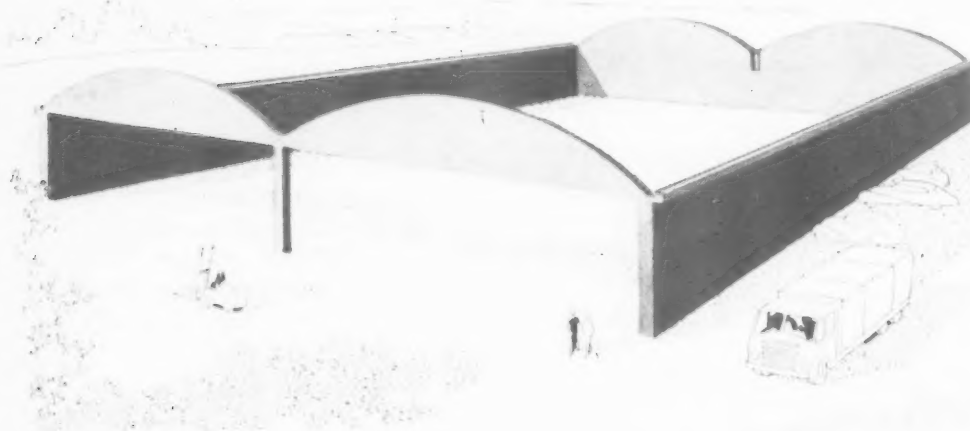
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